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Hafa Adai!

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DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS

NMI Judiciary faces possible closure

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro Castro, middle, addresses the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means at the House of Representative's chamber last Monday on Capitol Hill.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The NMI Judiciary has informed the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means that due to budget constraints, it's uncertain whether the CNMI's court doors will remain open in the coming fiscal year.

Last Monday, the NMI Judiciary appeared before the House Standing Committee on Ways and Means for their budget hearing.

According to the Judiciary's budget request, it needs $14.8 million to continue its operations. However, according to the Office of the Governor's revised budget proposal, it is proposing a budget of $5.3 million for FY2025

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro informed the House panel that due to the over $9-million cut, whether the CNMI's court doors remain open is uncertain.

See NMI on Page 4

Palacios supports cabotage exemption waiver

Palacios

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

"I support anything that is going to improve air connectivity in the Marianas region."

These were the words of Gov. Arnold I. Palacios when asked whether he supports efforts made to get a cabotage exemption waiver for the Marianas.

Last month, in an attempt to lower airfare costs in the Marianas, Delegate James Moylan (R-Guam) and Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan

See PALACIOS on Page 4

DPS: Forensics in double homicide case could take a year

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The homicide of a couple found dead in their home earlier this year remains unsolved with the Department of Public Safety expecting forensic results to take up to a year or more.

Macaranas

In an interview with DPS Commissioner Anthony Macaranas, he said forensic results in the murder case of Wang Jindong, 57, and Liu Shuping, 52, have yet to be received and it could take six months to a year before results are released.

DPS sent out evidence for forensic examination back in February.

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Wang Jindong, 57, and Liu Shuping, 52, were found brutally attacked last Jan. 4 in their residence in Finasisu.

See DPS on Page 4

Olaitiman apprehended after police manhunt

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
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CORRESPONDENT

A manhunt concluded yesterday after a man charged with assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and kidnapping was apprehended at the Saipan Vegas in Chalan Lau Lau.

According to the Department of Public Safety, officers had been seeking the community's help in locating Michael "Mike" Olaitiman, who was wanted for a multiple of serious charges.

Olaitaman

DPS acting public informant officer and assistant chief of police Simon Manacop shared in a press release that on July 4, 2024, Superior

See OLAITIMAN on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS

The CNMI SBDC Network announced its distinguished presenters for the upcoming U.S. Small Business Administration's Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer Program.

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WORLD

An Israeli airstrike on a school-turned-shelter in southern Gaza killed at least 25 Palestinians on Tuesday, as heavy bombardment in the north forced the closure of medical facilities in Gaza City.

PAGE 10

LIFE & STYLE

Sixteen jurors were seated Tuesday for Alec Baldwin's involuntary manslaughter trial in New Mexico, where opening statements are set to start Wednesday.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

JKPL holds completion ceremony for Children's Summer Reading Program

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
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CORRESPONDENT

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library concluded its Children's Summer Reading Program with a completion ceremony and sponsor recognition event last June 28 at the state library's premises in Susupe.

A total of 128 students completed the summer reading program that started on June 11 and ended on June 28. The event was attended by the students, volunteers, parents, and event sponsors.

Bookmobile supervisor Leora Sablan Terlaje, in her speech, mentioned how important reading is.

RACQUEL FLOYD

Summer Reading Program students, sponsors, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library staff, and volunteers pose for a group photo after the completion ceremony last June 28.

"Reading is not just a hobby. It is a superpower that opens doors to countless possibilities. It allows us to travel to different worlds, meet fascinating characters, and learn about the past, present, and future."

She also thanked the JKPL team and its volunteers who have made the program possible.

According to Terlaje, the program was divided into two sessions. Session A was for students ages 6-8 years old and was held from 8:30am to 11:30am. Session B was for ages 9-12 years old and their afternoon schedule was from 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

There was a total of 16 volunteers who assisted in the program, wherein each volunteer had five to eight members. According to one of the volunteers, Margarette Claveria, 14 years old, when she saw the Bookmobile event at the Sugar King Park, she was asked if she will be interested to join as volunteer and she said yes.

"The most challenging is the afternoon schedule because they don't usually talk and they don't want to be assisted like they want to do it on their own, unlike the little ones in the morning."

The certificate of completion and gift bag were distributed by House Speaker Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Friends of the JKPL member Leslie Bradley, and Sen. Corina Magofna (Ind-Saipan).

From July to August, the Bookmobile along with the Technology Mobile Express will be visiting the most underserved villages on Saipan, offering a wide selection of books, programs, and activities for children of all ages to enjoy. Participants can register for the program, receive a reading log to track their progress. As they read books and complete activities, they will earn rewards and prizes to keep them motivated and engaged throughout the summer. A valid JKPL Library card is required. Registration is open until full. First registered, first served.

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Bookmobile Summer Reading Program's Schedule is as follows

- Tanapag Youth Center from 9:30am to 11:30am, July 10-12;
- Carolinian Utt/Pavilion (Garapan) from 9:30am to 11:30am, July 17-19;
- Kagman Community Center from 9:30am to 11:30am, July 24-26; and
- Fernando M. Benavente Memorial Library (San Antonio) from 9:30am to 11:30am, July 30-31 and Aug. 2, 2024.

CNMI vet receives third master's degree

Sgt. Jose Babauta Castro recently completed his master's in National Security from American Military University, West Virginia.

He also holds a master's in Homeland Security and a master's in Emergency Disaster Management. Castro maintains a Superior Academic Achievement and an Honor Society Member for Society of Collegiate Leadership and Achievement as well as an Honor Society Member for Epsilon Pi Phi for Emergency and Disaster Management.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sgt. Jose Babauta Castro now has three Master's degrees—a Masters in National Security, a Masters in Homeland Security, and a Masters in Emergency Disaster Management.

Castro thanks his spouse and children for their support throughout this journey, and also gives special thanks to fellow associates of American Military University, Dr. Kathryn Lambert and Dr. Kelly Jordan, for their continuous support in accomplishing such milestone.

"Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, only this time more intelligently," he said after completing his third master's degree.

Castro experiences include management and program analyst under the Pathways Program in Washington, D.C. for the U.S. Department of Treasury, Departmental Offices and Domestic Finance and as a tax examining technician for the U.S.

Prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army, Castro was a classroom teacher for the CNMI Public School System. His military assignments included the headquarters, Headquarters Company with the 3rd Cavalry Regiment out of Fort Cavazos and the 158th Aviation Regiment out of Ansbach, Germany. He was assigned to HHC, Tactical Operations Center (TOC) for OIF 07-09 in Mosul, Iraq, working alongside commandership and assisting officers in mission fulfillment. ***(PR)***

PSS CHIEF, YOUTH CONGRESS PARTNER ON CCLHS INITIATIVE

PSS

Members of the 19th CNMI Youth Congress: Youth speaker Vinnie Juan Q. Sablan of Kagman High School, youth senator Ayden Sean C. Yumul of Grace Christian Academy, and youth senator Soledad Maria Tudela Sablan of Saipan International School met with Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho Tuesday morning as a follow up on their initial discussion last April 20. According to Camacho, the meeting was to "collaborate with members of our CNMI Youth Congress about a bill they are looking to introduce in an effort to improve our curriculum on Chamorro and Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies program" of the Public School System.

PSS

Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho listens to Youth Congress speaker Vinnie Juan Q. Sablan and Youth senator Soledad Maria Tudela Sablan.

PSS

Youth senator Ayden Sean C. Yumul listens as Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho stresses the importance of the CCLHS Program in the school district.

Pascual selected for Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals

The U.S. Department of State and Cultural Vistas are pleased to announce that Erika Pascual is one of 74 Americans selected to study and work in Germany as part of the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals program—now in its 41st year. The 2024-2025 CBYX Young Professionals cohort departs for Germany on July 26 and returns to the U.S. in June 2025. Participants come from a wide variety of career fields and from all over the U.S. This year about 500 young professionals vied for a spot in this prestigious program.

CBYX is a bilateral exchange program of the U.S. Congress and German Bundestag (Parliament). The program is administered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs through nonprofit implementing partners such as Cultural Vistas.

While in Germany, Pascual will attend a two-month intensive language course, study at a German university, and complete an internship in the field of international relations. Participants are usually placed with host families throughout Germany, where they act as citizen ambassadors of the United States, promoting a positive image of the U.S. abroad, creating lifelong friendships, and professional connections to enhance German-American relations.

While Pascual is in Germany, a group of 75 German CBYX participants will spend a year in the United States on a reciprocal exchange. German participants study at U.S. colleges and work at local businesses while living with American host families. U.S. citizens interested in hosting Germans in their community should fill out this interest form- https://culturalvistas.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Fr1y73z1gFRsq2.

While each exchange year is unique, over the last forty years, the program has positively changed the life trajectories for thousands of American young people. Find out about how the CBYX program builds the skills of American participants in the recently completed independent evaluation (full report).

For more information about CBYX, visit exchanges.state.gov/cbyx or contact Cultural Vistas at cbyx@culturalvistas.org. Applications for the fully funded 2025-2026 academic year will open in September 2024. German language skills are not required to apply for the fellowship. More information about the program, including eligibility requirements, can be found here.

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs promotes international mutual understanding through a wide range of academic, cultural, professional, and sports exchange programs. ECA exchanges engage youth, students, educators, artists, athletes, and emerging leaders in many fields in the United States and in more than 160 countries. Alumni of ECA exchanges comprise over one million people around the world, including more than 50 Nobel Laureates and more than 350 current or former heads of state and government. More information on their programs can be found at http://exchanges.state.gov.

Founded in 1963, Cultural Vistas is a nonprofit exchange organization promoting global understanding and collaboration among individuals and institutions. We develop international professional experiences that create more informed, skilled, and engaged citizens. Our programs empower people to drive positive change in themselves, their organizations, and society. Every year our 30-plus unique exchange programs reach thousands of individuals and organizations in the United States and more than 130 countries around the world. Visit www.culturalvistas.org for more information. ***(PR)***

ANTONIO SN. BORJA, Chairman · JAMES M. MENDIOLA, Vice Chairman · HENRY H. SAN NICOLAS, Member · DONALD M. HOFSCHNEIDER, Member · CHARLENE M. LIZAMA, Executive Director

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Friday, July 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda

II. NEW BUSINESS
   a. ED Recommendation No. TCGCC 2024-01

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IV. ADJOURNMENT

PALACIOS

From page 1

(D-Saipan) led the introduction of H.R. 8786, a piece of legislation that would provide a special cabotage exemption for foreign carriers seeking to fly from Guam to another U.S. port.

This would allow for competition for certain routes, which in turn should lead to more competitive pricing which ultimately benefits the consumers.

Senate President Edith DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) and House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), for their part, have also written to the Mariana Islands Legislature Association urging the adoption of a resolution pushing for a regional cabotage exemption.

In an interview with Palacios, he said he supports the intent behind a regional cabotage exemption.

"Yes, of course, [I support] anything that is going to improve air connectivity to the Commonwealth, Guam, and the region. But we have to be very realistic like Congressman Moylan and Kilili said, it's a heavy lift and it's going to be a long term [plan]," he said.

Palacios said for the meantime, however, dialogue should continue between the Marianas and United Airlines to lower the cost of travel between the CNMI and Guam.

"For the short term, we must continue our dialogue with United to see if they can help. I've asked them to please, make this site navigable for everybody. That's the difficulty, you must be tech savvy to navigate [it]. But it should be available to everybody, whether you pay online or at the counter," Palacios said.

Under current federal law, a foreign carrier can't transport passengers or cargo from one U.S. port to another.

Currently, United Airlines is the only domestic carrier that provides routes between Guam and the CNMI, as well as Guam and Hawaii.

If H.R 8786 were to become law, a foreign carrier could provide services between Guam and the CNMI, Guam and Hawaii, or even consider a route between Guam and one of the contiguous states.

"This is an issue which has been building, and with all additional concerns being raised recently, from United's pet policy to and from Guam, and the ending of the native bird repatriation program, along with $500 airfare costs between Guam and Saipan, something needs to be done," stated Moylan.

"This is going to be a massive undertaking, but we are ready. Just as the unions protect the domestic ships industry, we will face solid challenges from many entities, particularly from the incumbent carrier. This is also an issue which will be a marathon and not a sprint. In other words, it needs to build some momentum and will take time. We have and will continue to build an education campaign on why H.R. 8786 is so important for the Marianas," added Moylan.

Based on research of the average costs of domestic travel, leaving from the Guam International Airport to any airport across the nation is considered the most expensive route.

During Quality-of-Life Panel discussions, which are part of the House Armed Services Committee, and which seek ways to improve the quality of life for servicemembers living away from home, the top concern for those residing in Guam is the cost of airfare.

"Servicemembers, along with island residents, face challenges trying to attend weddings, funerals, or graduations in the mainland. The same goes with former residents wanting to fly back. Competition is the only way we will get the costs to reduce, and that is the intent of this legislation," Moylan.

"I also want to emphasize that this measure is in no way a testament to the efforts of United Airlines Guam management, staff, and flight crew. They continue to go above and beyond by being a community partner while providing exemplary service both in flight and on the ground and I thank them for their hard work. This issue is about decisions made on a corporate level in Chicago," added Moylan.

In their request to MILA, the CNMI legislature said if U.S. Congress will not authorize essential air service for the CNMI, then it's imperative that the U.S. should enact legislation to authorize a regional exemption to the cabotage laws or administrative waiver to allow foreign air carriers to fly between the CNMI and Guam.

BIG THANKS FROM TINIAN LITTLE LEAGUE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Big shout out and thank you to Borderline/Allstar Sporting Goods and Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods for their kind and ample donations to Tinian's newly renovated Little League Baseball Field. Your generosity is helping shape the next generation of champions by allowing the island's youth to discover their potential both on and off the field. Photo shows Jorge Bartolata and Jerson Caduduan of Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods with 19th Tinian Municipal Council chair Joseph E. Santos.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

April Tumada of Borderline/Allstar Sporting Goods with 19th Tinian Municipal Council chair Joseph E. Santos.

DPS

From page 1

"In the double homicide case, we're still waiting on forensics. I know the public remains concerned and anxious and are awaiting answers. However, we continue to wait for these forensics. Some of these investigations, especially involving forensic examinations, it takes time, around six months to a year or even more, it all depends on the course of the examinations and how it's being done," he said.

However, the DPS chief assures the community that should further information arise, DPS will be keeping the community posted.

"Again, we are still waiting, and I assure you that once we get the results, we will issue a press release," he said.

Wang and Liu were found brutally attacked last Jan. 4 in their residence in Finasisu. Wang was found dead at the scene; Liu died a few days later at the local hospital.

Since then, police investigators have looked into a couple of leads. DPS said they have since interviewed a few people of interest in relation to the murders and even searched for evidence at the Marpi landfill.

The most recent update, according to *Saipan Tribune* archives, is that the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau identified several persons of interest in this case.

According to CIB commander Jeff Olopai, there are several persons DPS has investigated regarding the couple's slaying.

"We believe there was more than one individual in the residence [during the] incident. We are hoping to get more feedback from the community and more tips. That's all we have right now," he said.

Based on DPS' investigation, it was discovered that the couple had called for police assistance two weeks prior to the murder to report a break-in. DPS previously said there is a possibility that the previous break in may be tied to the murders.

Meanwhile, Olopai said a murder weapon has been identified but could not disclose further details to maintain the integrity of the investigation.

"We can disclose that there was a weapon used in this case. We cannot disclose how it was determined. Domestic violence has been ruled out. DPS is in the process of sending off evidence found at the crime scene, like fingerprints, while a medical examiner has since conducted an autopsy on the victims," he said.

Dr. Phillip Dauterman conducted the autopsies.

NMI

From page 1

"Today is a very important day for our people. If you look at the governor's submission vs. the Judiciary's submission, it's really night and day. I will say that the million-dollar question is 'should we keep the court doors open on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota or should we shut it down?' The answer to that question is in your hands. On behalf of our people, I respectfully ask, let's keep the doors of justice open in CNMI," he said.

Castro expressed that the NMI Judiciary has done its constitutional duty to submit a budget that reflects the needs of the courts, and the Office of the Governor is just doing its constitutional duty to proportionally appropriate the funds available.

"Our constitution requires me to submit a budget that accurately reflects the needs of the courts on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. To do this, we asked all division in judiciary to submit their needs for FY2025. An in-house committee of the Judiciary went through these submissions and there after Presiding Judge Roberto Naraja and I submitted the budget now before you. Some of my staff and maybe some judges were not very happy of the submission because we did not incorporate every request. Had we considered all requests, from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, our request would be more than $15 million now before you. The Executive Branch has fulfilled its constitutional duty by trying to proportionately allocate available funds. It is now before you, the Legislative Branch, to carefully examine whether the Judiciary has justified our FY2025 budget submission," he said.

Naraja echoed Castro's sentiment.

"Let's keep the doors of justice open. The Superior Court division remains extremely understaffed which is why we continue to appear before this body asking for funding," he said.

Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), House Ways and Means committee chair, expressed that he is in support of the court's request but it's difficult to move funds around especially since all branches of government will be experiencing a 10% cut.

"The two branches don't control the funds. Whatever is handed to us is all we have. I want to make that clear because a lot of the time our community blames this body for the proposal the administration sends us. I want to make it clear that we are in support of the court's submission, but based on the amount given to us, the administration is asking both branches for an additional 10% cut and that makes it even more difficult for us to move funds around," he said.

Based on the governor's revised budget proposal, the administration has $111,474,011 to appropriate after its obligations.

OLAITIMAN

From page 1

Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued an arrest warrant for Olaitiman, with bail at $50,000.

Knowing that Olaitiman's last known residence is in Dan Dan Village, DPS began searching for Olaitiman and asked willing community members to join the search.

DPS later received a tip on Olaitiman's whereabouts which led to his arrest at 4:09pm yesterday. He was found inside a vehicle parked at the parking lot of the Saipan Vegas in Chalan Lau Lau.

Olaitiman is now detained at the Department of Corrections pending a bail hearing that is scheduled this morning in Superior Court. DPS would like to thank the community for their assistance that led to the apprehension of Olaitiman.

Last Thursday, June 27, at 7:43pm, DPS officers were dispatched to a disturbing the peace complaint at a residence on Capitol Hill. Officers learned from a female victim that Olaitiman had been disturbing and beating her for over a week.

Investigations revealed that the victim was slapped on the face while she was asleep. She had later walked to a relative's house and called for police assistance. Officers further learned that a week prior to her reporting the incident, Olaitiman had held the victim and her children inside her apartment and would not let them out. He would threaten to kill her and her children, and would pinch her hard in her stomach. Olaitiman had also grabbed her son on the neck after he tried to stop him from beating the victim.

Authorities urge anyone who needs to report a crime or has become aware of criminal activity to contact the Criminal Investigation Bureau at (670) 664-9042, DPS headquarters at (670) 664-9001, or the Crime Stoppers Hotline at (670) 234-7272. Callers who call om Crime Stoppers can choose to remain anonymous.

WITH FIRST SESSION ON SAIPAN

4-H Camp Maga'lahi celebrates decade of summer fun

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Campers and counselors in their respective houses gather together for a group photo on the last day of 4-H Camp Maga'lahi's first Saipan Juniors Session.

An experience of a lifetime was crafted for Saipan's youth as the first week-long session of the Juniors 4-H Camp Maga'lahi successfully wrapped up last June 21. The session consisted of 94 campers ages 8 to 12, and 55 counselors ages 14 to 19 as they embarked on a multitude of fun activities from June 17 to 21 for the first session of the 10th annual 4-H Camp Maga'lahi.

Held at the Oleai Sports Complex in Susupe, campers and camp counselors were empowered to become leaders in their communities through positive youth development during 4-H Camp Maga'lahi's Session 1 for Juniors.

Exploring Saipan's scenery, campers were treated to nature walks at Jeffrey's Beach and Paupau Beach, where the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality Division of Coastal Resources Management taught the campers on-site about the ocean, corals, local sea creatures, and the habitats in which they live. In collaboration with the Chamorro Council, campers and counselors participated in dedicated sessions on learning traditional fishing practices such as talaya throwing and cultural weaving. Campers also learned about slinging, traditional dancing, and blowing conch shells.

A mini-camp fair was held behind the main basketball court, where partners from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Community Guidance Center, Division of Youth Services and Youth Affairs Office, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Kumoi Farms, NMC-CREES' Nutrition & Health Program, Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Services' Agroforestry Program were able to teach campers a variety of practical skills and knowledge such as healthy eating habits, environmental stewardship, the importance of mental health, and sustainable farming practices.

Campers also had the opportunity to participate in a hands-on soccer demo at the NMC Soccer Training Center in Koblerville. While there, campers and counselors were guided by the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association on how to properly play soccer, strengthening their teamwork skills.

By the end of Session 1, excitement filled the air as campers prepared to race with a Proa Derby, sailing boats made from reused cardboard in a timed contest of speed, durability, and distance. The final day of camp concluded with an award ceremony, where campers and counselors were recognized and awarded for their hard work.

A parent of a camper who showed her continuous support said, "I love Camp Maga'lahi. It helps my child branch out of his comfort zone and experience new things. My son has attended Camp Maga'lahi since he was 5." A counselor shared how the camp helped her feel more comfortable, expressed, "I learned that I could talk to a big crowd without being so scared, it just came with a lot of practice and it really helped me overcome my fear. And I also learned that I could be patient."

"We are blessed in our islands to have such strong leadership through 4-H Marianas and the Family, Community, and Youth Development team. Hearing our youth share their stories of personal growth further demonstrates the impact that Camp Maga'lahi continues to have on its participants," stated CREES interim dean Patty Coleman.

4-H Camp Maga'lahi is conducted in partnership with NMC-CREES Family, Community and Youth Development program.

The Saipan Juniors Session 2 will be held from July 22 to 26, with the final Saipan Cloverbuds Sessions being held from July 29 to Aug. 2, 2024. Tinian's session will be held from July 8 to 12, 2024, with Rota's session being held from July 15 to 19, 2024.

For more information, email crees.fcyd@marianas.edu or 4h@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

SHRM general membership meeting with annual leadership forum on July 18

The SHRM NMI Chapter is excited to announce an exclusive general membership meeting—its annual leadership forum, featuring a complimentary live event that is open to both SHRM NMI members and the wider community.

This half-day leadership forum, set to take place on Thursday, July 18, 2024, will be held at Queens Hall of Kensington Hotel Saipan. The highlight of the event is an interactive workshop titled "A New Way to Lead," facilitated by Joseph Connelley, chairman of the Board for Pacific Human Resource Services, INC, located in Guam.

This workshop will delve into the qualities that distinguish great leaders, with a focus on the Fundamental Beliefs of Trust and Inspire Leaders®. Based on the extensive research of Stephen M. R. Covey, participants will explore how Trust & Inspire leaders possess a profound understanding of human effectiveness and leadership, guided by core beliefs that foster a Trust & Inspire mindset.

Workshop Goals:

1. Discover the Extraordinary Potential

Unleash the incredible potential and performance capabilities that Trust & Inspire leaders can achieve.

2. Identify and Overcome Barriers

Recognize common barriers to becoming a Trust & Inspire leader and explore practical solutions to overcome them.

3. Understand Fundamental Beliefs

Grasp and apply the essential beliefs that underpin Trust & Inspire leadership.

"If we want to make minor changes in our lives, we can focus on our attitudes and behaviors. But if we want to make significant, quantum change, we need to work on our basic paradigms."—**Dr. Stephen R. Covey**

This annual leadership forum promises to be a transformative experience for all attendees, providing valuable insights and practical tools to enhance leadership capabilities. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from industry experts and network with fellow professionals in a stimulating environment.

The following fees apply:

- $60 for members
- $70 for non-members

To register, please sign up here: https://forms.gle/EJs7hF7tUB747QQb6

This meeting will include light breakfast and lunch. Seating is limited and by submitting this form you are confirming your attendance on Thursday, July 18, 2024 from 9am to 1pm.

The Society for Human Resource Management is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM has more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries, and more than 575 affiliated chapters.

The CNMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. ***(PR)***

NMC-OAR closed July 10-17

Northern Marianas College employees from the Office of Admissions and Records will be participating in software training from July 10 to 17, 2024. To maximize employee participation, NMC-OAR will be closed on these days.

Students who need assistance with registering for NMC's upcoming Fall 2024 semester are asked to email NMC-OAR at oar@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

GCC to host island-wide FAFSA workshops

In a move to assist island community members looking to fund their higher education, Guam Community College will host several outreach events and Free Application for Federal Student Aid workshops. GCC received an award of $58,783 from Educational Credit Management Corp., which focuses on guiding Guam students and their parents/guardians in completing and submitting the FAFSA application through Aug. 31.

The FAFSA Student Support Strategy workshops are open to all potential students regardless of age or college choice.

The FAFSA form is an application for federal student aid. Individuals seeking further education must complete the FAFSA form to apply for federal student aid such as federal grants, work-study funds, and loans. Completing and submitting the FAFSA form is free and easier than ever, and it provides access to federal student aid—the largest source of aid—to help students pay for college or career/trade school.

In addition, many states and colleges use the FAFSA information to determine an individual's eligibility for state and school aid. Some private aid providers may use your FAFSA information to decide if you qualify for their financial assistance.

The 2024-25 FAFSA application cycle has substantial changes to the student financial aid application process, including a new application form, new eligibility criteria, new terminology, new requirements for parents and other contributors, and a shorter timeline for applicants to submit the FAFSA. As a result, the U.S. Department of Education believes that students and families need additional support, advice, and encouragement to complete the FAFSA form and enroll in college. Guam Community College received an award of $58,783 from the ECMC to host island-wide FAFSA Student Support Strategy workshops. This funding is for GCC to assist Guam residents with completing the FAFSA application.

The FAFSA Student Support Strategy goal is to increase the number of students who complete a 2024-25 FAFSA and enroll in college, particularly first-time students. Since Public Law 37-93 requires all high school seniors to complete the FAFSA as a requirement for graduation, this program is timely.

To learn more about the FAFSA Student Support Strategy and the program's schedule, contact Esther Rios at (671) 735-5511 extension 5513 or esther.rios@guamcc.edu. To inquire about completing the FAFSA form for GCC, contact the Financial Aid Office at (671) 735-5543 extension 5544 or financialaid@guamcc.edu. Active-duty military and veterans can seek assistance by contacting Victor Fernandez at (671) 735-43 extension 5556 or victorfernandez1@guamcc.edu. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Presidential immunity must have clearer limits

Chief Justice John Roberts declared emphatically that "the President is not above the law" in his majority opinion for last week's sweeping presidential immunity decision. And yet the U.S. Supreme Court's 6-3 ruling does place the nation's chief executive above the law and protect the office from criminal prosecution in certain circumstances.

While the decision is not the blanket shield that many say would make a president a king or dictator, it goes considerably too far in excusing the holder of the executive office from accountability.

The ruling creates absolute immunity for a president carrying out the core constitutional duties of the office—what are considered "official acts"—including powers ascribed to a unitary executive in the Constitution, such as granting pardons, hosting foreign ambassadors and engaging in foreign relations.

The decision also creates essentially two lower classes of presidential acts—those considered within the outer perimeter of official responsibilities of the office, from which he has presumptive immunity, and those considered entirely private, for which there is no immunity.

We support the instinct of the court to preserve the critical separation of powers and protect a president from having his constitutional authority marginalized by a barrage of lawsuits—or by the fear of them.

But it goes against American values to offer such complete immunity even when carrying out core constitutional functions.

The result is not terribly surprising considering five of the six conservative justices who joined the majority opinion all worked extensively for previous presidents in the executive branch of government.

But codifying that a president can block an investigation or launch politically motivated investigations without cause or fear of accountability raises the likelihood a president could engage in illegal activity—as former President Donald Trump is accused of in the case that prompted the court's review.

Former President Gerald Ford's 1974 pardon of predecessor Richard Nixon, for example, would have been unnecessary under this ruling because Nixon presumably would have been absolutely immune from prosecution for the obstruction of justice allegation that compelled his resignation after he conspired to thwart the investigation of the Watergate break-in.

Presidents can still be prosecuted for some criminal acts, although it will be much more difficult to investigate those acts within the office.

Justice Amy Coney Barrett's concurrence notes nothing in the Constitution insulates a president from criminal liability for their official acts, although any attempt to charge a president could always face a constitutional challenge.

That is a measured approach and one that should have been adopted in the majority's opinion. Better yet would have been more unanimity from the court on such an impactful decision.

Legal scholars are divided on how sweeping the protections

See IMMUNITY on Page 7

Europe and NATO can't help the US counter China. Here's why

MARK HANNAH
Los Angeles Times

Mark Hannah, a senior fellow at the Institute for Global Affairs, is lead author of its "New Atlanticism" report and host of its "None of the Above" podcast.@ProfessorHannah

At a recent news conference, U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken stood shoulder to shoulder with NATO's secretary general to deliver a sweeping vision. "The alliance recognizes that security challenges in one part of the world impact another—and vice versa," Blinken said. He paraphrased Prime Minister Fumio Kishida of Japan: "What's happening in Ukraine today may well be happening in East Asia tomorrow." The subtext was unmistakable: The United States expects Europe to join its campaign to counter China's rise, just as allies have rallied against Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Yet as stirring as expressions of transatlantic solidarity sound, they obscure a more complicated picture. Europe currently lacks both the military means and the political appetite to meaningfully help the U.S. balance China in Asia.

Major European militaries have begun conducting naval patrols in the Indo-Pacific region, but decades of underinvestment have left European armed forces too small and ill-equipped to sustain far-flung expeditionary missions. Germany, the continent's economic powerhouse, has allowed half its tanks to fall into disrepair. Britain, once a global power, could exhaust its ammunition within two months of high-intensity combat. France's army has shrunk from 15 divisions during the Cold War to just two today.

Sending a frigate or two on patrol is one thing; maintaining a sizable presence to deter Chinese aggression is quite another. The strategic lift, logistics and bases needed to sustain forces in the Pacific would cost staggering sums. Much of NATO Europe would be hard-pressed to defend itself against a determined Russian assault, let alone project power in Asia.

Political will is in even shorter supply. In surveys the Institute for Global Affairs recently conducted in the U.S., U.K., Germany and France—four of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's wealthiest countries—Europeans proved far less inclined than Americans to view China as a threat, to hold strongly negative opinions of it or to believe the West should gear up for a new Cold War. These sentiments limit how far leaders can tilt toward Washington on China, despite their soaring summit rhetoric. When they're done championing democracy at international summits, these political leaders return to their democracies, where their policies will be informed—and constrained—by their voters' preferences.

If Washington pressures European capitals to join its campaign to limit China's power and influence, it could yet again estrange the U.S. from its most important allies. Confronting China as a merry band of democratic countries may feel emotionally satisfying, but over the long term, it is unwise. Europeans are already disillusioned by their involvement in the interminable post-Sept. 11 wars and wary of America's tendency toward military interventions. President Joe Biden should be careful to not drag them into a more expansive global contest to which they neither want to nor can contribute.

Disputes about trade and technology accompany these military and political differences. America's Inflation Reduction Act and the European Union's proposed carbon border tax, for instance, create tensions. Economic disagreements pale before the overriding imperative of deterring Chinese or Russian aggression against Taiwan or NATO territory, but considering all these factors, the U.S. and Europe should split their attention. As it concentrates forces in the Pacific, the U.S. should encourage Europe to bolster its defenses closer to home. European allies should double down on deterring Moscow rather than dilute their efforts in a far-off region where they can make little difference.

Over time, a more robust European defense posture might enable more contributions in the Pacific. But developing the necessary expeditionary capabilities would require drastic investment in areas such as airlift and sealift that most European militaries have long neglected. If Europe instead concentrates on securing its own neighborhood, it would relieve the U.S. of its costly burden there and free it up to focus more on the Indo-Pacific. This approach would also be politically popular, with our sur-

See EUROPE on Page 7

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Biden's longtime defiance appears to have grown into full denial

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

It took Joe Biden three campaigns and more than 30 years to win the presidency. It should come as no surprise that he's resisting suggestions that he give it up now, just over a week after a disastrous debate performance sharpened doubts that he can win a second term.

He's been in this position before. "Same thing happened in 2020," he told ABC's George Stephanopoulos on Friday.

A recurring pattern of setbacks, defiance and recovery has been the central narrative of Biden's career. It's a story he frequently tells—to himself, his family and his party.

"I've been knocked down before and counted out my whole life," he told campaign workers Wednesday. "I learned long ago that when you get knocked down, you get back up."

In earlier chapters, his gritty refusal to be counted out was a virtue. It fueled his 2020 comeback from failures in the early primaries, when doubters said he was waging a "zombie campaign," to victory over then-President Trump.

But Biden's signature defiance appears to be hardening into denial.

In his 22-minute interview with Stephanopoulos, he batted away questions about whether his moments of incoherence at the June 27 debate signaled a deeper problem.

"I just had a bad night," the president said—five times.

He dismissed the many polls that show him likely to lose to Trump, who has been convicted of 34 felonies in New York.

"All the pollsters I talk to tell me it's a toss-up," Biden insisted.

When Stephanopoulos noted that surveys show only 36% of voters have a favorable view of Biden, the president replied: "I don't believe that's my approval."

And he wasn't sure whether he had rewatched the debate to analyze his performance. "I don't think I did," he said.

It sounds like the famous chip on Biden's shoulder has grown so big that it's interfering with his ability to understand why so many Democrats are worried.

"The president is rightfully proud of his record," David Axelrod, who helped Barack Obama win two presidential elections, said in a post on social media. "But he is dangerously out of touch with the concerns people have about his capacities moving forward and his standing in this race."

A handful of Democrats in Congress—five House members, according to a tally by the Washington Post — have publicly urged Biden to withdraw from the race. More than a dozen others have expressed concern over whether he's able to wage an effective campaign, without explicitly asking him to get out.

Behind them is a much larger number who refuse to be quoted but worry that Biden's debate performance was more than just one "bad night," and that the campaign will devolve into a white-knuckled watch over his faltering performance.

Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco) voiced their bottom-line question bluntly in a recent television interview.

"Is this an episode, or is this a condition?" she asked, referring to Biden's lapses during the debate. "When people ask that question, it's completely legitimate."

If the answer is a one-time episode, Biden stands a chance of convincing voters that he can be an effective president for four more years. If the answer is that he is suffering from a worsening condition, he needs to retire with grace and honor.

When Stephanopoulos relayed Pelosi's question to the president, he batted it away. "It was a bad episode," he said. "No indication of any serious condition."

But Biden acknowledged that he has not undergone a full neurological or cognitive evaluation. "No one said I had to," he said.

"I have a cognitive test every day," he added, referring to the many meetings he attends as president.

Pelosi, who has not urged Biden to withdraw, said that both major-party presidential candidates should undergo more-rigorous medical examinations.

"Both candidates owe whatever test you want to put them to, in terms of their mental acuity and their health—both of them," she said.

Trump, who at 78 is three years younger than Biden and has never released detailed health records, is unlikely to embrace that idea. So Pelosi's argument amounted to a plea to the 81-year-old Biden to undergo more tests for the sake of his party, whether his Republican rival follows suit or not.

Democrats expect more shoes to drop this week.

The first week of polls after the debate showed Biden had lost about 2 percentage points, leaving Trump with a projected average lead of 3.5% of the nationwide popular vote if the election were held last week.

A drop of 2 points may not seem large, but Democratic strategists aren't convinced that Biden has bottomed out. "It usually takes about two weeks for an event's effects to percolate," one said. So Democratic leaders are anxiously awaiting more polls.

Because of the way electoral votes are apportioned, Biden would need a popular vote lead of at least 2.5% to call the race a toss-up. Trump's current polling lead—which may not hold up, of course—puts the president far behind.

That's one reason why Democrats in Congress are increasingly edgy. Another is that a GOP landslide could doom their chances of holding their majority in the Senate and winning a majority in the House of Representatives.

That outcome would not only cost many Democrats their jobs; it would deprive them of the power to impede Trump's plans to transform the federal government into an instrument of his whims.

Senate and House members will return to the Capitol on Monday after their Fourth of July recess. Once Democrats hold their caucus meetings, the trickle of those urging Biden to withdraw could turn into a flood.

The decision, many say, is up to Biden.

If the president bows out, party insiders are already discussing how they could organize a "mini-campaign" in the six weeks before Aug. 19, when the Democratic National Convention begins in Chicago.

But if the president stays in, party leaders will try to avoid a chaotic fight over his nomination on the convention floor. The last time a president's renomination was challenged at a convention, when Sen. Edward M. Kennedy tried to oust then-President Carter in 1980, the outcome was a disaster for the party.

Biden says he's sticking to his guns. "I am staying in the race!" he shouted at a rally in Wisconsin on Friday. "I will beat Donald Trump!"

When Stephanopoulos asked whether he would withdraw if he were convinced that he couldn't win, Biden replied: "If the Lord Almighty comes down and tells me that, I might."

Our political parties usually take a year or more to choose a presidential candidate. It's clearly going to take longer than 10 days to decide whether to unchoose one.

IMMUNITY

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are, which is reflected in the justices' individual commentary.

In her dissent from the majority opinion, Justice Sonya Sotomayor took one extreme, arguing the decision enables a president to be emboldened to take a plethora of actions with "evil ends," such as bribes or assassinations.

Barrett, in her concurrence, sought to calm fears that prosecution—including specific charges against Trump for pressuring state electors in Michigan and elsewhere to overturn election results—would be thrown out.

Notably, the court remanded most of the charges against Trump back to lower courts for evidentiary processing, a clear indication the ruling is not a blanket protection for anything a president might do.

There is a possibility that some of the ambiguities will gain clarity as cases against Trump move through the legal process.

While we agree with Roberts that the ruling should not allow the president to get away with anything, there's a clear danger that it allows current and future presidents to get away with too much.

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EUROPE

From page 6

veys finding large pluralities of Europeans who want to increase their country's defense spending; about 9 out of 10 Europeans want Europe to be primarily—or wholly—responsible for its own defense.

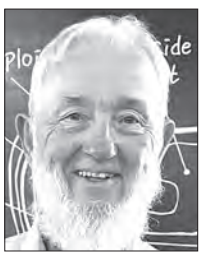
For all the heady invocations of free-world solidarity, the reality is that Europe cannot be America's wingman in Asia—at least not anytime soon. The world's leading democracies may share many of the same values, but their interests and abilities diverge with geography. Effectively managing authoritarian challengers such as China will require a division of labor among allies, not the pretense of lockstep coordination. As NATO member countries gather in Washington this week, let's hope for less chirpy idealism for a world that might be and more alert realism for the world that is.

Biden vs. Trump for POTUS—take notice

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey Connolly aka "Pepe Batbon" is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is the Poet Laureate of Tinian and enjoys stargazing.



'It's Alright Ma (I'm Only Bleeding)'

By Bob Dylan

"While preachers preach of evil fates
Teachers teach that knowledge waits
Can lead to hundred dollar plates
Goodness hides behind its gates
But even the President of the United States
Sometimes must have to stand naked"

TWILIGHT OF A DEMAGOGUE GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG IS SUNG

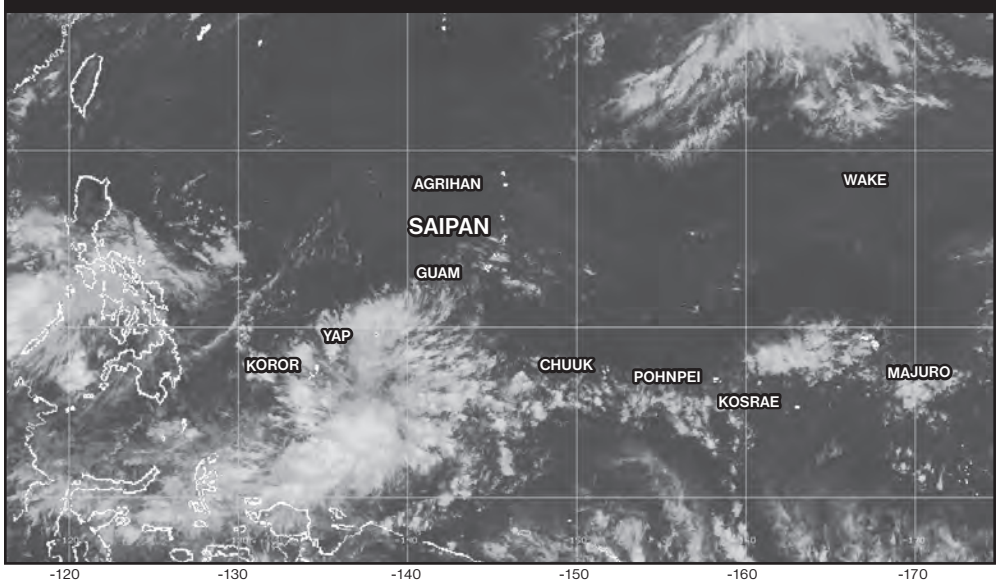
Rollin Rollin Rollin Biden on campaign hard ridin
Trumpty 2025 Trumpster democracy in the dumpster
Trumpty Dumbtee tryin just can't quit everyday lyin
Unrealistic tariff statistics; narcissisitic and Fascistic
Economy wins with Bidenomics; Trump in porno comics
Impeached, multiple convictions, sentences of fiction
Can't remember lies he's burying, authoritarian carrion
Trumpty Trumpty trumpets his own tortuous threnody
Hyperbole, projection, with 81 or more counts of felony
Biden Biden Biden, Old Scranton Joe still hard ridin
Trumpty and his GOP right wing captains of MAGA
Constitute destruction to our national democracy saga
His MAGA sycophants cheer, bow down, and applaud
45's campaign incorporates deception lying and fraud.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers.
86º 78º	88º 79º	88º 79º	88º 79º	88º 79º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:15 AM TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Raised the PoP`s (Probability of Precipitation) today and tonight as model data appeared quite favorable, and satellite is showing some slightly enhanced cloud tops. Otherwise, refreshed the first 24 hours, however changes were largely cosmetic. No change to forecast philosophy at all, expecting a relatively dry weekend, then another round of showers next week. Combined seas will be 3 to 5 feet through the weekend, then could pick up a foot or two next week. We might even get a touch of west swell beyond the forecast period. Marine conditions will remain benign for the foreseeable future.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 76°
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Fair	87° / 76°
Majuro	Cloudy	85° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:08 AM	10:39 PM	-
Friday	10:53 AM	11:11 PM	-
Saturday	11:39 AM	11:44 PM	-
Sunday	12:25 PM	-	-
Monday	-	12:18 AM	1:13 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57° / 52°
Beijing	Fair	91° / 73°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	92° / 79°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°
London	Mostly Sunny	84° / 59°
Los Angeles	Sunny	89° / 71°
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	92° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
New York	Clear	86° / 73°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Paris	Sunny	84° / 61°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°
Rome	Sunny	91° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorm	85° / 70°
San Francisco	Sunny	70° / 56°
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 72°
Tokyo	Cloudy	92° / 78°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	98° / 79°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
5:43 AM	Low Tide	1.27
10:14 AM	High Tide	1.74
5:22 PM	Low Tide	0.39
-	-	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 1, 2024

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily
7C3471	5:50PM	9:30PM	Daily from July 17

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3472	11:05AM	4:40PM	Daily
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

Business

SBDC announces presenters for its USDA SBIR/STTR training sessions

The CNMI Small Business Development Center Network is thrilled to announce its distinguished presenters for the upcoming U.S. Small Business Administration's Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer Program funded under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The USDA SBIR program team will be providing a detailed overview on funding opportunities and other entrepreneurial resources that food and agricultural experts can use to advance their ideas. This presentation is appropriate for those who are interested in bringing their small business or research to life.

Meet our presenters:

■ Melinda Coffman, program coordinator for the USDA SBIR Program, will be facilitating the training at Tinian SBDC on Thursday, July 11, from 9:30am to 11am in Room D, Tinian NMC Center. Register Here: https://marianas.ecenterdirect.com/events/1019159

■ Tammi Neville, program specialist for the USDA SBIR Program, will lead the session at Rota SBDC on Thursday, July 18, from 10:30am to 12pm in Room A-1, Rota NMC Center. Register Here: https://marianas.ecenterdirect.com/events/1019160

■ Tori Swann, USDA SBIR-ICF Next Outreach Support, will be moderating all three training sessions, ensuring a seamless and informative experience for all participants.

We are also excited to announce the newly confirmed details for the CNMI SBDC Network site (Saipan) training. This session will take place on Friday, July 26, from 10am to 11:30am at the NMC As Terlaje Campus in Room V217. For clients interested in attending the Saipan training, you may register through this link: https://marianas.ecenterdirect.com/events/1019161.

These training sessions will cover eligibility requirements, application processes, and strategies to leverage USDA SBIR/STTR programs for research and development projects in areas such as AgTech, artificial intelligence, national security, biotechnology, and clean energy. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with experts, gain critical knowledge, and explore funding opportunities to drive innovation and economic growth. There will also be time for open Q&A at the end of the presentation. Participants are also encouraged to prepare questions in advance.

For more information, visit www.cnmisbdc.com or contact us at (670) 237-6888/ cnmisbdc@marianas.edu. Follow us on social media for the latest updates: Instagram @cnmisbdc and Facebook at CNMI Small Business Development Center Network.

The CNMI SBDC Network promotes a business-friendly economic infrastructure in the community, builds entrepreneurial capacity and financial literacy within that community, and provides current and nascent small businesses with the technical assistance, counseling, training, and support they need to innovate, adapt, and grow.

The CNMI Small Business Development Center Network comprises the CNMI SBDC lead center located on Saipan, the Rota SBDC, and Tinian SBDC. The CNMI SBDC Network is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Northern Marianas College. All opinions, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with at least two weeks advance notice. For arrangements, please contact your local SBDC at P. O. Box 501250 Saipan, MP 96950, Tel: (670) 237-6888, or email SBDC Administrative office manager Adelpha Magofna at adelpha.magofna@marianas.edu. Services are extended to the public on a non-disciplinary basis. ***(PR)***

House backs bills to roll back energy efficiency standards for refrigerators and dishwashers

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Republicans on Tuesday approved two bills rolling back Energy Department efficiency standards on refrigerators and dishwashers.

Republicans called the Biden administration rules expensive and impractical, while Democrats defended them as a way for consumers to save money and reduce greenhouse gas pollution that contributes to climate change.

A bill by Republican Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks of Iowa would curtail Energy Department rules on refrigerators. A separate measure by New York Republican Rep. Nick Langworthy would bar the administration from implementing or enforcing new efficiency rules if they are not "cost-effective or technologically feasible" and result in significant energy conservation.

The refrigerator bill was approved, 212-192, while the dishwasher measure was adopted, 214-192. Both bills now go to the Democratic-controlled Senate where they are unlikely to advance.

The White House said it strongly opposes both measures but stopped short of a veto threat if the bills reach Biden's desk.

The bills include "vague" and misleading language that "would add uncertainty to the implementation of these (efficiency) standards and create unnecessary hurdles for DOE in making future updates," the White House said in a statement.

Langworthy said his bill, the Stop Unaffordable Dishwasher Standards, or SUDS Act, would "put the brakes on the Biden administration's relentless assault on efficient, affordable and reliable appliances for everyday Americans through overbearing regulations."

The Energy Department and other agencies have "abused and twisted" a 1970s-era law aimed at energy conservation in order "to serve the radical, woke, environmental agenda of the far left," Langworthy said during debate on the House floor. "Why should Americans who are putting their groceries on credit cards be forced to deal with more out-of-touch expensive regulations?"

Miller-Meeks used similar language, saying the Biden administration has implemented "outrageous regulations that only serve to limit consumer choice, increase energy prices and control everything Americans are able to do on a day-to-day basis."

Nation

Houston residents left sweltering after Beryl

HOUSTON (AP)—The return of searing heat in the Houston area has deepened the misery for people still without power after Hurricane Beryl crashed into Texas and left residents in search of places to cool off and fuel up as the extended outages strained one of the nation's largest cities.

AP

Staff at Lakewood Church operate a cooling station and water distribution line in Houston, Tuesday, July 9, 2024. The effects of Hurricane Beryl left most in the area without power.

More than 1.7 million homes and businesses still lacked electricity Tuesday night, down from a peak of over 2.7 million on Monday, according to PowerOutage.us. As frustration mounted, state officials faced questions over whether the power utility that covers much of the area had sufficiently prepared.

Nearly 36 hours after Beryl made landfall, Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said that a sports and event complex would be used to temporarily hold up to 250 hospital patients who are awaiting discharge but cannot be released to homes with no power.

» Over 1.7M still lacking power

People were coping as best they could.

"We can handle it, but not the kids," Walter Perez said as he arrived at celebrity pastor Joel Osteen's megachurch in Houston, which served as a cooling center and distributed 40-bottle packs of water.

Perez said his wife, 3-year-old son, 3-week-old daughter and his father-in-law retreated from their apartment after a night he described as "bad, bad, bad, bad."

An executive for CenterPoint Energy, which covers much of the Houston area, defended the utility's preparation and response.

"From my perspective to have a storm pass at 3 p.m. in the afternoon, have those crews come in in the late evening, and have everything ready by 5 a.m. to go out and get out and start the workforce is rather impressive because we're talking about thousands of crews," Brad Tutunjian, vice president of regulatory policy with CenterPoint Energy, said at a media briefing.

Highs in the Houston area on Tuesday climbed back into the 90s (above 32.2 Celsius) with humidity that made it feel even hotter. Similar heat and humidity was expected Wednesday. The National Weather Service described the conditions as potentially dangerous given the lack of power and air conditioning.

Beryl, which made landfall early Monday as a Category 1 hurricane, has been blamed for at least seven U.S. deaths—one in Louisiana and six in Texas—and at least 11 in the Caribbean.

Nim Kidd, head of the state's division of emergency management, emphasized that restoring power was the top priority.

Biden to meet with top union leaders

WASHINGTON (AP)—Facing pressure from within his own party to abandon his reelection campaign, President Joe Biden is relying on labor unions to help make the case that his record in office matters more than his age.

The 81-year-old Democrat is set to meet Wednesday with the executive council of the AFL-CIO, America's largest federation of trade unions.

The AFL-CIO said the president has been booked to attend the meeting for more than a year, but his participation now involves much higher scrutiny after his weak debate performance against Donald Trump raised fears about his ability to compete in November's election. His sit-down with union officials also overlaps with the NATO summit in Washington, where Biden is navigating geopolitics with other world leaders.

A person who has been involved in past executive council meetings described them as largely informal and unscripted, a sign that Biden will not be able to rely on a prepared text as he seeks to solidify support among a group of union leaders who are both loyal to his administration and pragmatic. The person insisted on anonymity to preview the private meeting.

A White House official, insisting on anonymity to preview the meeting, said that Biden intends to thank the union leaders for their support and outline his plans for the future. Biden is close to many union leaders who will be in the room, and considers AFL-CIO president Liz Shuler to be a personal friend.

The council is composed of more than 50 officials from the unions that compose the AFL-CIO, with the group representing 12.5 million union members.

So far, the unions are sticking with the Biden administration despite widespread fears that his age handicaps his candidacy after his shaky performance in the June 27 debate. But some statements of support are also worded diplomatically to suggest a degree of flexibility in case Biden chooses to drop out—saying they back the Biden-Harris administration and not just Biden personally.

"President Biden and Vice President Harris have always had workers' backs—and we will have theirs," Shuler, the AFL-CIO president, said after the debate.

World

Israeli airstrike kills 25 in southern Gaza

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP)—An Israeli airstrike on a school-turned-shelter in southern Gaza killed at least 25 Palestinians on Tuesday, as heavy bombardment in the north forced the closure of medical facilities in Gaza City and sent thousands fleeing in search of increasingly elusive refuge.

Israel's new ground assault in Gaza's largest city is its latest effort to battle Hamas militants regrouping in areas the army previously said had been largely cleared.

Large parts of Gaza City and urban areas around it have been flattened or left a shattered landscape after nine months of fighting. Much of the population fled earlier in the war, but several hundred thousand Palestinians remain in the north.

"The fighting has been intense," said Hakeem Abdel-Bar, who fled Gaza City's Tuffah district to the home of relatives in another part of the city. He said Israeli warplanes and drones were "striking anything moving" and that tanks had moved into central districts.

The strike at the entrance to the school killed at least 25 people, according to an Associated Press reporter who counted the bodies at Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis. Hospital spokesperson Weam Fares said the dead included at least seven women and children and that the toll was likely to rise.

Earlier airstrikes in central Gaza killed at least 14 people, including a woman and four children, according to two hospitals that received the bodies. Israel has repeatedly struck what it says are militant targets across Gaza since the start of the war nine months ago.

The military blames civilian deaths on Hamas because the militants fight in dense, urban areas, but the army rarely comments on individual strikes, which often kill women and children. The Israeli army said the airstrike near the school and reports of civilian casualties were under review, and claimed the strike targeted a Hamas militant who took part in the Oct. 7 attack on Israel.

There was also no immediate word on casualties in Gaza City. Families whose relatives were wounded or trapped were calling for ambulances, but first responders could not reach most of the affected districts because of the Israeli operations, said Nebal Farsakh, a spokesperson for the Palestinian Red Crescent.

Russia chairs UN meeting decrying its strike on Ukraine kids' hospital

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—U.N. Security Council members confronted Russia on Tuesday over a missile strike the previous day that destroyed part of Ukraine's largest children's hospital, pouring out condemnations at an emergency meeting chaired by Moscow's own ambassador.

Russia denies responsibility for the strike at the hospital, where at least two staffers were killed.

France and Ecuador asked for the session at the Security Council, but Russia led it as the current holder of the council's rotating presidency, putting Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia on the receiving end of the criticism.

"Mr. President, please stop this war. It has been going on for too long," Slovenian Ambassador Samuel Zbogar appealed.

U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield told colleagues that they were there "because Russia, a permanent member of the Security Council, current rotational president of the Security Council, attacked a children's hospital."

"Even uttering that phrase sends a chill down my spine," she added.

Nebenzia characterized the slew of criticism as "verbal gymnastics" from countries trying to protect Ukraine's government. He reiterated Moscow's denials of responsibility for the hospital attack, insisting it was hit by a Ukrainian air defense rocket.

"If this had been a Russian strike, there would have been nothing left of the building," Nebenzia said, adding that "all the children and most of the adults would have been killed, and not wounded."

The strike on the Okhmatdyt children's hospital was part of a massive daytime barrage in multiple cities, including the capital of Kyiv. Officials said at least 42 people were killed. The attack also damaged Ukraine's main specialist hospital for women and hit key energy infrastructure.

At Okhmatdyt, "the ground shook and the walls trembled. Both children and adults screamed and cried from fear, and the wounded from pain," cardiac surgeon and anesthesiologist Dr. Volodymyr Zhovnir told the Security Council by video from Kyiv. "It was a real hell."

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WORLD BRIEFS

A double-decker bus collides with milk truck in northern India, killing at least 18 people

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—A double-decker passenger bus collided with a milk truck in northern India on Wednesday, killing at least 18 people and injuring many others, officials said. The collision occurred on an expressway in Uttar Pradesh state, and 19 injured people were rushed to the hospital by villagers in the area, said police officer Arvind Kumar, adding that their condition was reported to be stable. The bus was traveling from the northern state of Bihar to the capital New Delhi. "Authorities are in the process of identifying the victims, and a probe has been launched to determine the exact cause of the accident," Kumar added. Gaurang Rathi, a government official, said that according to a preliminary investigation the bus may have been speeding when it struck the milk truck from behind, which led both vehicles to overturn. The collision was severe enough that one side of the bus was torn off, causing passengers to be ejected from the vehicle. Images on television showed bodies scattered across the road.

Suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targets ship in Gulf of Aden

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a ship in the Gulf of Aden on Tuesday, the latest assault blamed on the group on the crucial maritime trade route. The captain of the ship reported an explosion in close proximity to the vessel off the coast of Nishtun, Yemen, close to the country's border with Oman, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center said. The ship, whose name and flag were not released, and all crew are safe, the UKMTO said in a warning to mariners. The explosion took place in the farthest reaches of the waterway earlier targeted by the rebels, the center said. It did not elaborate on what caused the explosion, though the Houthis have been known to use drones and missiles as well as bomb-carrying drone boats. Late Tuesday night, the Houthis issued a broad claim of responsibility for three attacks, although it remains unclear which of these attacks was reported by authorities. Since the latest assault, shipping or military authorities have not acknowledged any additional attacks in the region.

Elephants trample Spanish tourist to death in South Africa

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP)—Elephants trampled to death a Spanish tourist at a South African wildlife reserve after he left his vehicle and approached a herd to take photographs, police and local government authorities said Tuesday. The 43-year-old man was killed on Sunday at Pilanesberg National Park in North West province, about 180 kilometers (111 miles) from Johannesburg, police said. The elephant herd included young calves. Wildlife experts often warn that elephants are especially protective of their young and can react aggressively to a perceived threat. Police said the man's fiancée and two other women, all from Johannesburg, were also in the vehicle and unharmed. Piet Nel, acting chief conservation officer for the North West Parks and Tourism Board, said guests at Pilanesberg are told they are not allowed to leave their vehicles while driving through the park and must sign forms showing they understand the rules.

Life & Style

Jury seated in Baldwin's involuntary manslaughter trial

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)— Sixteen jurors were seated Tuesday for Alec Baldwin's involuntary manslaughter trial in New Mexico, where opening statements are set to start Wednesday.

Five men and 11 women were chosen by Santa Fe County special prosecutors and the actor's team of defense attorneys. Twelve will be designated as the jury and four as alternates by the court only after they hear the case.

They'll be tasked with deciding whether Baldwin committed the felony when, during a rehearsal in October 2021, a revolver went off while he was pointing it at cinematographer Halyna Hutchins, killing her and wounding director Joel Souza. They were on the set of the Western film "Rust," at Bonanza Creek Ranch some 18 miles (29 kilometers) from where the trial is being held.

Media members were not allowed in the courtroom when attorneys used their challenges to strike jurors. Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer swore in the jury, told them to avoid news about the case and to report Wednesday morning.

Baldwin, 66, could get up to 18 months in prison if the jurors unanimously find him guilty.

The selection got off to a slow start Tuesday with a delay of over two hours due to technical problems, but the panel was selected in a single day as expected.

When Marlowe Sommer asked the pool of 70 possible jurors if they were familiar with the case, all but two raised their hands to indicate they were.

AP

Actor Alec Baldwin leaves court after jury selection in his involuntary manslaughter trial, Tuesday, July 9, 2024, in Santa Fe, N.M.

Two others indicated they would not be able to be fair and impartial and were excused.

Baldwin, the star of "30 Rock" and "The Hunt for Red October" and a major Hollywood figure for 35 years, sat in the courtroom with a team of four of his lawyers, dressed in a gray suit, dark tie, white shirt with glasses and neatly combed hair.

His wife, Hilaria Baldwin, and his brother, "The Usual Suspects" actor Stephen Baldwin, were seated in the back of the courtroom.

Under questioning from prosecutor Kari Morrissey, a potential juror said she hates firearms, but many others acknowledged owning them and few people expressed strong opinions about guns.

Baldwin's lawyer Alex Spiro in his questioning highlighted the gravity of the situation — "obviously someone lost their life" — and asked jurors to come forward with any reservations about their own ability to be fair and impartial.

"Does anyone have that view, even in the slightest?" Spiro asked the group.

He asked them to come forward if they'd shared opinions about the case online. None did.

Spiro asked if any of them had strong opinions on gun safety, and whether a person can rely on an expert to ensure the safety of a gun, not just themselves.

Several said they always treat a gun as if it were loaded. One man said he was taught to respect and treat guns the same way, but also deferred to an instructor during instruction he got for a concealed carry permit.

NYC prosecutors intend to bring new sexual assault charges vs. Weinstein ahead of retrial

NEW YORK (AP)— Manhattan prosecutors said Tuesday that they intend to bring new sexual assault charges against Harvey Weinstein as they anticipate a November retrial for the disgraced media mogul.

Assistant District Attorney Nicole Blumberg said in court that prosecutors are actively pursuing claims of rape that occurred in Manhattan within the statute of limitations.

She said some potential survivors that were not ready to step forward during Weinstein's first New York trial have indicated they are now willing to testify.

But when pressed by the judge, Blumberg said prosecutors have not yet brought their findings to a grand jury. She also said she could not provide the court a timeline for when their investigation will be complete.

"The People are still investigating in a trauma-informed manner," she said. "That is an ongoing process."

Weinstein's lawyer Arthur Aidala, with his client sitting next to him in a wheelchair, suggested the investigation was simply a delay tactic from prosecutors, saying something similar happened ahead of the initial rape trial.

"Once again, they're doing the '1-800-Get-Harvey," he said outside the courthouse following the morning hearing. "They're trying to find someone else to come forward because I guess they feel that their current case is not strong enough."

In court, Blumberg rejected the notion and said the prosecution's plan is to proceed to trial in the fall.

"There's certainly no delay tactics on our part," she said. "We're proceeding in the most expeditious manner."

When asked by Judge Curtis Farber what month she anticipated, Blumberg responded: "November would be a realistic timeframe."

Aidala said his client simply wants to get the trial going as soon as possible, noting he's in his fifth year of incarceration.

"He's suffering tremendously," Aidala said, adding that the 72-year-old suffers from macular degeneration, fluid in his lungs and heart and diabetes that is "through the roof" because of the poor diet behind bars.

"He's basically getting no treatment for any of it," Aidala said. "He's not a young man. He's a sick man."

"These tactics from prosecutors are just delay, delay, delay," he added.

Jason Momoa and Lisa Bonet are officially divorced

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Jason Momoa and Lisa Bonet are officially divorced.

A Los Angeles County judge's dissolution of the marriage of the two actors, who had already been separated for years, took effect Tuesday.

Bonet and Momoa were married for more than seven years and were a couple for 12 years before they wed.

Bonet, whose legal name is Lilakoi Moon, filed for divorce in January. The documents listed the couple's separation date as October 7, 2020, more than three years earlier. They made their separation public in 2022.

The divorce went as quickly as legally possible and came without dispute. Neither person will get financial support, they have agreed on how to split their assets, and they will have joint custody of their 16-year-old daughter and 15-year-old son.

Momoa, 44, is best known for his roles in the "Aquaman" movies and on "Game of Thrones." Bonet, 56, was a star of "The Cosby Show," its spinoff "A Different World," and the films "High Fidelity" and "Enemy of the State."

It was the first marriage for Momoa, who has revealed on social media that he is dating "Hit Man" and "Father of the Bride" actor Adria Arjona.

It was the second marriage for Bonet, who was previously married to rocker Lenny Kravitz and has another daughter, actor Zoë Kravitz, with him.

Mystery of missing undies leaves hostess embarrassed

DEAR ABBY: We invited a couple for a short visit to our remote country cabin. Afterward, I discovered a pair of pink panties lying on the road in front of our mailbox. When I picked them up with a stick to carry to the trash, I realized they were a pair of clean pink panties I had misplaced. They must have stuck to the sheets I had placed on the bed immediately before our guests arrived.

Now I can't stop wondering what this couple must have been thinking when they tossed the panties. This may not seem like a serious issue, but it has become a source of embarrassment for me every time I meet these folks. Should I explain the panty situation or let it go?

RED-FACED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR RED-FACED: Don't get your panties in a twist. The next time you encounter the couple, ask if they have encountered a pair of pink panties that you misplaced around the time they came to visit.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I was watching a police video on the internet, and I spotted the woman who lives in the apartment next door. I know it's her because of the prominent tattoo on her chest. She was being arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct.

She went ballistic on the cops. First, she screamed and fought back. Next, she sagged and started sobbing at the top of her lungs. Then she started laughing maniacally. I'm afraid to live next to her now. Should I show the video to the apartment manager and ask that she be removed?

SCARED IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR SCARED: Although the police video was understandably upsetting, I am not sure that showing it to the building manager would be enough to have the woman evicted. It might, however, be a valid reason for you to move out of the building. If you are truly fearful, consult an attorney who specializes in real estate law who can advise you on possibly breaking your lease.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are considering a move to another state to be close to our son and his family. Here's our dilemma: We have four lifelong friends who are respected and successful local real estate agents, each of whom would expect to be selected as the listing agent of our home.

Choosing one would, undoubtedly, leave the other three hurt and offended. (They all know each other.) We feel our only option is to choose an outside agent to sell our home and to explain our rationale to our friends before the property hits the market. What say you, please?

HARD CHOICE IN THE SOUTH

DEAR HARD CHOICE: There is more than one way to handle this. The first would be to use the outside agent and possibly alienate all of your lifelong friends. Another would be to tell all of them you plan to move to another state to be closer to your children and see which one of the four offers you the best deal to represent you in the sale.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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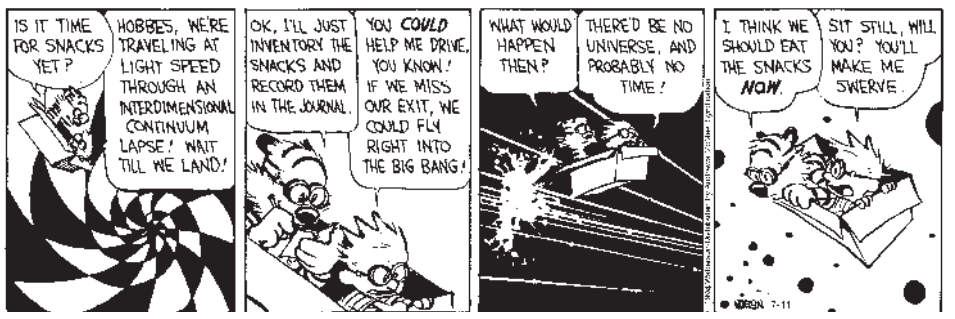
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

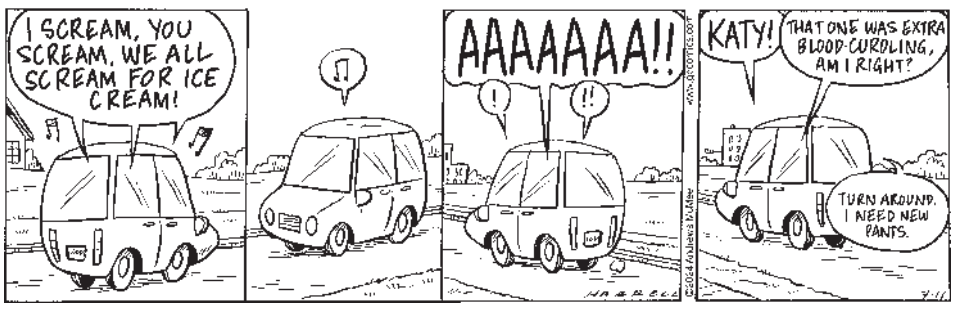

IS IT TIME FOR SNACKS YET?
HOBBES, WE'RE TRAVELING AT LIGHT SPEED THROUGH AN INTERDIMENSIONAL CONTINUUM LAPSE! WAIT TILL WE LAND!
OK, I'LL JUST INVENTORY THE SNACKS AND RECORD THEM IN THE JOURNAL.
YOU COULD HELP ME DRIVE, YOU KNOW! IF WE MISS OUR EXIT, WE COULD FLY RIGHT INTO THE BIG BANG!
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN THEN?
THERE'D BE NO UNIVERSE, AND PROBABLY NO TIME!
I THINK WE SHOULD EAT THE SNACKS NOW.
SIT STILL, WILL YOU? YOU'LL MAKE ME SWERVE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

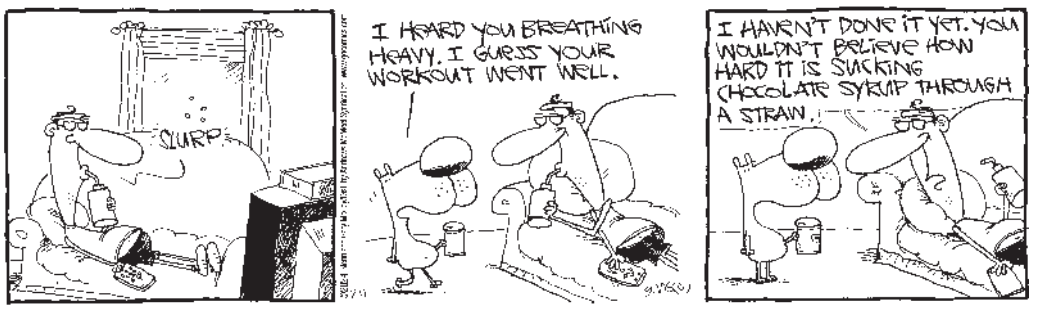
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM, WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!
AAAAAAA!!
KATY!
THAT ONE WAS EXTRA BLOOD-CURDLING, AM I RIGHT?
TURN AROUND. I NEED NEW PANTS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


SLURP
I HEARD YOU BREATHING HEAVY. I GUESS YOUR WORKOUT WENT WELL.
I HAVEN'T DONE IT YET. YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW HARD IT IS SUCKING CHOCOLATE SYRUP THROUGH A STRAW.

CROSSWORD

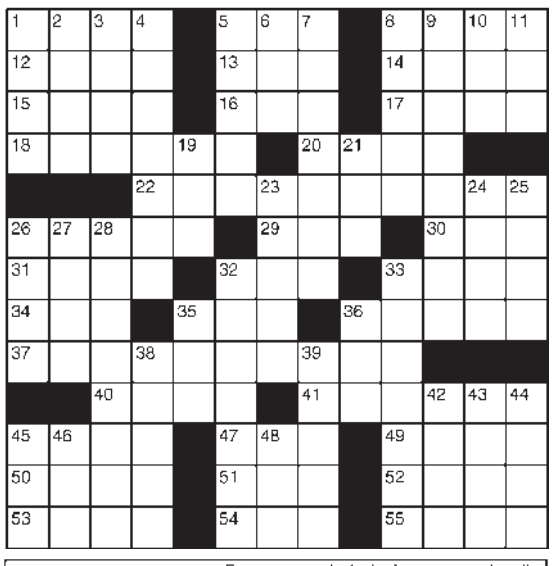
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Lab sci.
5 Resistance unit
8 Shetland, for one
12 Verdi opera
13 Caviar
14 During
15 Winnebago owner, briefly
16 "Hulk" director Lee
17 Big rackets
18 Harmless
20 Summer month, in Arles
22 Rembrandt painting, with "The"
26 South Indian crepes
29 Thither
30 Nest egg letters
31 Story lines
32 Actress Aniston, to friends
33 Tight-fitting
34 Sea, to Henri
35 Gents
36 Wise ones
37 Wearable Apple
40 "The Umbrella Academy" actor Elliot
41 Gap
45 Raised
47 Recline
49 Take it easy
50 Actress Hatcher
51 Roswell visitors
52 Mater lead-in
53 Mediocre
54 "The Pioneer Woman" Drummond
55 Spruced up

DOWN
1 High- — diet
2 Bee's home
3 Paradise
4 Spots for yachts
5 Borneo ape, for short
6 Sweetie
7 Explosive measure
8 City near Venice
9 Skipping over
10 French diarist Anais
11 NFL measures
19 USO patrons
21 Personal
23 "Laughing" critter
24 Rock's Mötley —
25 Fairy tale figures
26 River blockers
27 Utah city
28 Paint removers
32 Ring merchant
33 Desert-like
35 Conf. room session
36 "Nova" subj.
38 Ham's device
39 The ones here
42 Prefix with conference
43 Sch. at West Point
44 RBI, for one
45 "Dynamite" band
46 — Speedwagon
48 Mineral suffix

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Justin Chambers, 54; Lisa Rinna, 61; Richie Sambora, 65; Sela Ward, 68.

Happy Birthday: You can gain ground this year by using your ingenuity and discipline to reach your goal. Embrace change; it's time to stop dreaming and start doing. Put your heart on the line and express your desires. Reach out to people you love, and implement activities that bring you joy. Be the one to make the effort to promote your goals. Your numbers are 8, 13, 20, 24, 32, 35, 44.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Stop being so hard on yourself. Let the past go and focus on the here and now. Take control of your happiness, and set a path that encourages learning something new, starting a hobby or participating in an activity that broadens your circle of friends. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* You have what it takes to up your game and finish what you start. Use your imagination, and you'll figure out how to improve your surroundings and lifestyle. Talk to an expert, research and forge ahead. Self-improvement and love will build confidence and boost your morale. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Reach out to people heading in a similar direction. The information you gather will help you put things in perspective and assist you in making decisions regarding your habits. Shake things up and do what's best for you. A healthy lifestyle is encouraged. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Get organized, move things around and make your surroundings functional. The convenience of having everything in its place and keeping only what's important to you will ease stress. Make an effort to reach out, participate in community events and connect with people of interest. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Apply pressure if it will get you on track and heading in a positive direction. Embrace the chance to meet new people, and consider different ways to use your skills. Look for moneymaking opportunities and explore what's trending. Market yourself for success and expand your options. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Learn, be open to suggestions and participate in talks leading to interesting proposals and possibilities. Partnerships look promising, and taking a unique approach to using your skills and living your life will pay off. A change of scenery will inspire change. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Let your intuition guide you, and you'll gain insight and energy to turn your thoughts into something tangible. Be cautious when dealing with professional connections. Someone who can make you look bad will misinterpret your actions. Protect your reputation, position and prospects. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Call on those with something to offer, and you'll discover alternatives that help you make an intelligent move. Emphasize what you have to give to someone in a position of power, and you'll gain insight into possibilities. A partnership will experience highs and lows. Keep the peace .✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Knowing who you can trust will be a big deal. Use your charm to access what others think and plan to do next. Don't share personal information, ideas or concepts prematurely. Knowledge is vital to discovering who you want on your team. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You are overdue for a change. Sign up for something that interests you. Socialize, network and challenge yourself mentally and physically, and you'll gain insight into what you want to pursue and how to turn your plans into a reality. Traveling, learning and focusing on relationships are favored.✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* People and interests that stimulate your mind will prompt you to reconsider what's important to you and how to redirect your energy to support your mental and physical needs. Proceed with caution; a change of heart will likely backfire. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Too much of anything will work against you. Look for opportunities within your means, and don't take on too much. Focus on saving, changing what isn't working for you and taking better care of your health and well-being. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are original, helpful and kind. You are practical and homey.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			4	7	1	9		
	4		9		2			8
		2				1	4	
6			1		7	4	2	9
1		4	2	6	9		8	
		7						
4			7	1			6	5
		3	6			8	9	
	1	6		9			7	

Difficulty: ★★★ 7/11

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

6	9	7	2	5	1	3	4	8
8	2	5	9	3	4	6	1	7
3	4	1	7	6	8	2	9	5
4	7	9	8	1	2	5	3	6
2	5	3	4	9	6	7	8	1
1	8	6	3	7	5	9	2	4
7	1	2	5	4	3	8	6	9
9	6	8	1	2	7	4	5	3
5	3	4	6	8	9	1	7	2

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Difficulty: ★★★ 7/10

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MAGIC IN THE AIR Solution: 9 letters

T	T	I	C	K	E	T	S	I	S	O	N	P	Y	H
H	O	U	D	I	N	I	M	S	N	I	O	C	O	I
E	C	P	E	R	F	O	R	M	E	S	H	O	W	D
A	L	I	H	Y	T	R	A	P	M	C	P	M	A	D
T	O	R	R	A	P	O	H	S	G	N	I	E	I	E
E	W	O	A	Ⓒ	T	P	C	O	O	C	S	D	N	N
R	N	T	B	Ⓐ	U	E	T	I	C	T	P	Y	I	O
A	O	A	B	Ⓖ	I	S	T	U	R	S	E	E	A	I
E	I	T	I	Ⓔ	E	C	R	E	T	A	L	R	T	T
P	S	C	T	R	A	T	E	O	S	N	L	I	R	C
P	U	E	P	R	A	T	R	S	U	C	O	F	E	U
A	L	P	T	I	S	Y	S	A	T	N	A	F	T	D
S	L	S	N	O	I	T	P	E	C	R	E	P	N	O
I	I	P	E	N	N	A	N	D	T	E	L	L	E	R
D	E	C	K	O	F	C	A	R	D	S	P	O	R	P

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Cage, Charm, Circus, Clown, Coins, Comedy, Curtain, Deck of Cards, Dice, Disappear, Distraction, Entertain, Escape, Fantasy, Fire, Focus, Hidden, Hoop, Houdini, Hypnosis, Illusion, Party, Penn and Teller, Perception, Perform, Presto, Production, Props, Rabbit, Rope, Shop, Show, Spectator, Spell, Story, Street, Theater, Tickets, Top Hat

Yesterday's Answer: Goat Cheese

The NEW **Treasury 58** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367).

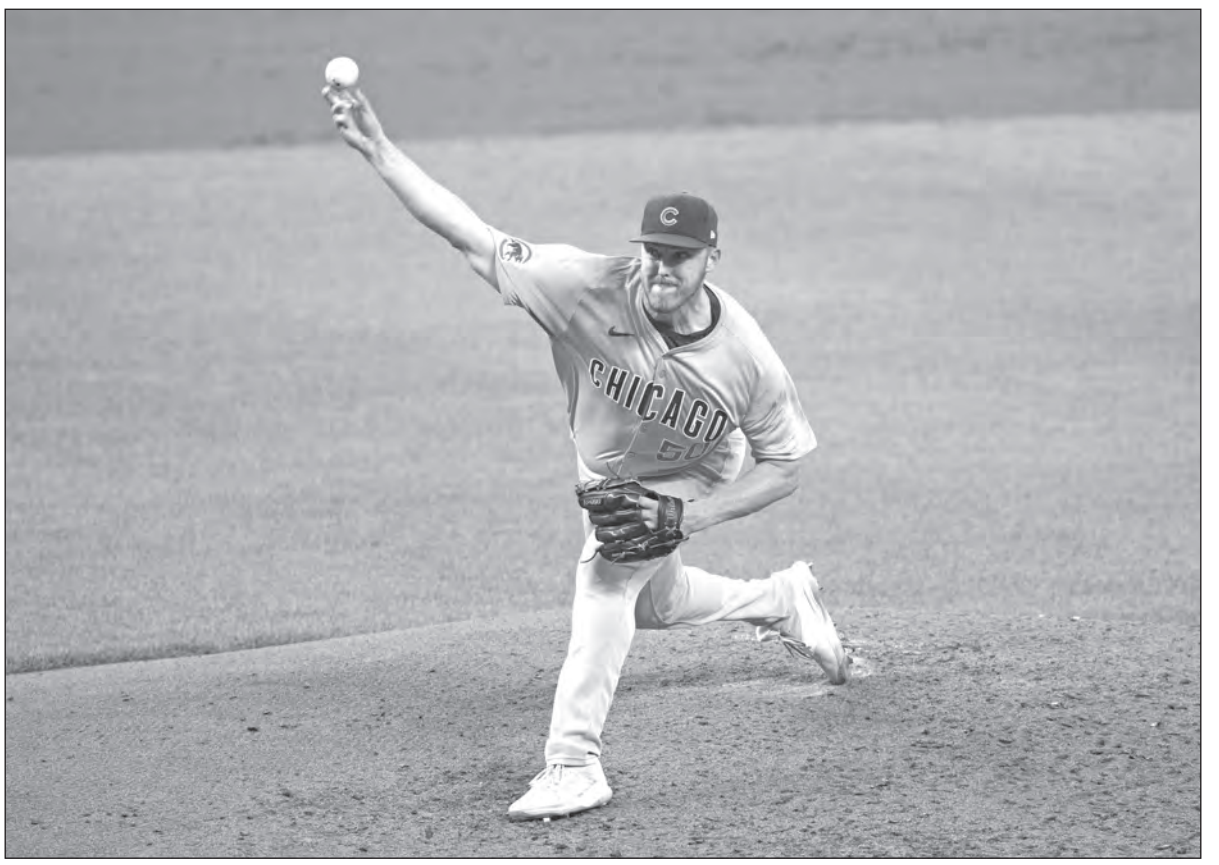
Cubs cruise past Orioles behind Happ, Busch homers

BALTIMORE (AP)—Michael Busch and Ian Happ homered, and Jameson Taillon and three relievers combined for a five-hitter as the Chicago Cubs beat the Baltimore Orioles 9-2 on Tuesday night.

Taillon (6-4) allowed two runs and four hits with seven strikeouts and a walk over six innings. The 32-year-old right-hander retired the last 11 batters he faced.

The Cubs improved to 10-4 against the Orioles since 2014, and have won four of the last five games since Aug. 18, 2022.

Happ's three-run homer gave Chicago a 7-2 lead in the fourth inning. With his 395-blast to right field, Happ joined Jason Heyward (July 14, 2017) as the only Cubs players to have a homer land on Eutaw Street. Happ, who entering the game with a .171 average on the road—the lowest in the majors among qualifying hitters, according to STATS—finished 2 for 4 with a walk.



AP

Chicago Cubs starting pitcher Jameson Taillon throws during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles, Tuesday, July 9, 2024, in Baltimore.

PHILLIES 10, DODGERS 1

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Trea Turner hit his sixth career grand slam, Bryson Stott and Brandon Marsh also went deep and Philadelphia welcomed back Bryce Harper and Kyle Schwarber from injuries with a win over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Phillies lost ace Zack Wheeler on a steamy night with left low back tightness after five innings. A 2024 All-Star, Wheeler (10-4) joined Aaron Nola and Ranger Suárez as a trio of Phillies pitchers with 10 wins before the All-Star break. It's the first time in franchise history the Phillies have three pitchers with 10 wins before the break.

After a modest 5-4 mark with Harper and Schwarber sidelined—that included dropping two of three over the weekend in Atlanta—the Phillies flexed their muscle early against the Dodgers in a matchup of NL division leaders.

Schwarber hit a two-RBI single in the second inning for a 3-0 lead.

RAYS 5, YANKEES 3

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—All-Star Isaac Paredes hit a three-run homer and Tampa Bay held on to beat struggling AL East rival New York — the Yankees' 17th loss in 23 games.

Paredes went deep during a four-run first inning against Carlos Rodón (9-7). Right-hander Ryan Pepiot (5-5) limited one of baseball's best offenses to one run and four hits over 5 2/3 innings, and Tampa Bay won despite only having two hits after the third inning.

Three days after becoming the first Yankees rookie to homer three times in a game, Ben Rice hit a two-run shot that trimmed Tampa Bay's lead to 4-3 in the seventh inning. The Rays scored on Johnny DeLuca's double for a two-run cushion before things got dicey again in the ninth.

DJ Mahieu singled with one out, bringing Rice to the plate as the potential tying run. But Pete Fairbanks met the challenge, striking out Rice and getting Juan Soto to fly out to the warning track in center field for his 15th save in 17 opportunities.

RED SOX 12, ATHLETICS 9

BOSTON (AP)—Brayan Bello fanned a career-high 11 batters±—getting each of his first 10 outs by strikeout—and Wilyer Abreu and Dominic Smith homered on back-to-back pitches in an eight-run second inning Tuesday night to help Boston beat Oakland.

On the day he was scratched from the All-Star Game with a sore shoulder, Rafael Devers had two hits and a walk, driving in three runs and scoring twice as the Red Sox won for the seventh time in eight games and improved to a season-high 10 games over .500.

ASTROS 4, MARLINS 3

HOUSTON (AP)—Alex Bregman had three RBIs and his tiebreaking two-run home run in the seventh inning lifted Houston to a win over Miami.

The game was tied at 2 with one out in the seventh when Chas McCormick reached on a throwing error by rookie shortstop Xavier Edwards. There were two outs in the inning when Bregman sent an off-speed pitch from Huascar Brazobán (1-2) into the seats in left field to make it 4-2.

The victory was Houston's seventh straight at home and comes after the Astros dropped the final two games of a series at Minnesota last weekend.

Ronel Blanco (9-3) allowed four hits and two runs with seven strikeouts in seven innings for the win.

METS 7, NATIONALS 5

NEW YORK (AP) — Jose Quintana permitted one hit in seven shutout innings, Brandon Nimmo and Francisco Lindor both homered and drove in three runs, and the New York Mets beat Washington.

Harrison Bader had three hits and scored twice from the bottom of the batting order for the Mets, who moved back to .500 at 45-45. Lindor also had three hits and scored two runs in the leadoff spot.

Pinch-hitter Ildemaro Vargas put the Nationals on the board with a two-run homer in the eighth against reliever Adam Ottavino, booed off the mound by the Citi Field crowd of 31,243.

GUARDIANS 9, TIGERS 8, 10 INNINGS

DETROIT (AP)—Jose Ramirez became the second player to get intentionally walked three times and to have three hits in a game since Major League Baseball began tracking free passes in 1955 as Cleveland held on to beat Detroit Tigers in 10 innings.

Ramirez joined Paul Goldschmidt, who pulled off the feat for Arizona against Milwaukee in 2015, according to Sportradar. The Home Run Derby participant is also the first to have three intentional walks in a game since San Diego's Jake Cronenworth did it nearly three years ago, according to Sportradar.

Josh Naylor hit a tiebreaking single in the 10th for his fourth RBI and Brayan Rocchio added a sacrifice fly in the extra inning for the AL Central-leading Guardians, who blew a 6-0 lead early in the game.

REDS 12, ROCKIES 6

CINCINNATI (AP)—Will Benson hit a three-run homer in a five-run second inning, rookie Rece Hinds crushed a 458-foot shot and Cincinnati cruised to a win over Colorado.

The 23-year-old Hinds hit a long homer for the second time in as many nights. He had a 421-foot shot in his major league debut on Monday, before teeing off on Colorado reliever Justin Lawrence as part of a four-run Cincinnati seventh. He came up a single short of hitting for the cycle.

Tyler Stephenson and Spencer Steer also homered as the Reds downed the Rockies for the second night in row.

PIRATES 12, BREWERS 2

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Joey Bart hit a grand slam and the Pittsburgh scored six runs in the sixth inning to storm past Milwaukee.

All-Star Bryan Reynolds, Rowdy Tellez, Jack Suwinski and Joshua Palacios also homered for the Pirates, who won in Milwaukee for just the 12th time in 42 games since 2019. The five home runs were a season-high surrendered by Brewers pitching.

RANGERS 5, ANGELS 4

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Adolis García broke out of a 1-for-19 slump with a solo homer in the eighth inning and Texas extended their winning streak to a season-high five games, defeating the Los Angeles Angels.

The Angels lost for the eighth time in nine games despite two homers and three hits from Logan O'Hoppe.

Los Angeles had a chance to take the lead in the seventh inning. The Angels had the bases loaded with two outs after Anthony Rendon drew a walk off José Leclerc (4-4), but Nolan Schanuel grounded out to first baseman Nathaniel Lowe.

García was batting .115 in July (3 for 26) before he drove a sinker from Luis García (3-1) into the elevated stands in right-center. Despite the struggles at the plate, García has reached base in 17 of his last 18 games.

MARINERS 8, PADRES 3

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Julio Rodríguez went 4 for 4 with a 411-foot home run into the second deck in left field, Cal Raleigh had a pair of two-run homers among his three hits and All-Star Logan Gilbert was brilliant for the AL West-leading Seattle, who beat San Diego Padres 8-3.

Rodríguez also drove in two runs and scored three times in his biggest game of the year. The 2022 AL Rookie of the Year has been in a slump since mid-June, although he homered and doubled in a 7-3 win against Baltimore on Thursday. That homer was his first since June 15. It was his second four-hit game of the season and 10th of his career.

Rodríguez's ninth homer, off rookie Adam Mazur (1-3) with one out in the fifth, was such a no-doubter that All-Star left fielder Jurickson Profar just turned and watched it sail into the stands for a 5-0 lead.

Rodriguez, who hit an RBI single in the first, was aboard for both of Raleigh's shots. He singled ahead of Raleigh's homer to right with one out in the third and doubled ahead of Raleigh's line shot to left with one out in the seventh. Raleigh extended his team lead to 17. Raleigh also doubled in the ninth.

Gilbert (6-5) took a one-hit shutout into the seventh before allowing Jake Cronenworth's homer with one out. The tall right-hander allowed Kyle Higashioka's two-run homer with two outs in the eighth and was pulled. He allowed four hits in 7 2/3 innings, struck out seven and walked one.

GIANTS 4, BLUE JAYS 3

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Brett Wisely hit a tying RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning and Tyler Fitzgerald scored the winning run moments later on a wild pitch by Trevor Richards, rallying San Francisco past Toronto Blue Jays.

Richards (1-1) allowed Patrick Bailey's single and walked Fitzgerald to put the tying and go-ahead runs aboard in the ninth before Wisely's single got through between first and second.

Yusei Kikuchi struck out a career-high 13 pitching into the eighth inning and Ernie Clement's three-run homer in the seventh put the Blue Jays in good position—denying Blake Snell a chance at his first victory of the year.

BRAVES 6, DIAMONDBACKS 2

PHOENIX (AP)—Chris Sale outdueled Zac Gallen with 5 1/3 solid innings, Adam Duvall hit a three-run homer and Atlanta beat Arizona for their fourth straight win.

Duvall connected for his three-run shot in the sixth, extending Atlanta's lead to 5-0. The 441-foot homer was launched deep into the left field seats, ending Gallen's night in frustration.

It was a good moment in a tough season for Duvall, who came into the game hitting just .184 with seven homers.

The 35-year-old has bounced back from several injury-riddled seasons to be one of the best pitchers in the big leagues this year. He'll represent the Braves on the NL All-Star team on July 16.

Gallen (6-5) gave up five runs, including four earned, over 5 1/3 innings. The right-hander gave up seven hits and a walk while striking out four.

Medvedev beats Sinner, faces defending champ Alcaraz next

LONDON (AP)—Jannik Sinner felt ill. He was dizzy. Hadn't slept well the night before. Wimbledon's top-seeded man, who recently attained the No. 1 ranking, definitely did not want to quit playing against Daniil Medvedev in the quarterfinals, but things were not looking good.

Sinner was treated by a trainer and left the court during the third set Tuesday, then briefly surged before faltering again down the stretch, eventually losing to a more-aggressive-than-usual Daniil Medvedev 6-7 (7), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 2-6, 6-3.

"I was struggling physically," said Sinner, who had won his past five matches against Medvedev, including a five-setter in the final of the Australian Open in January. "It was not an easy moment. I tried to fight with that what I had today."

It wasn't enough.

Not against the crafty Medvedev, the 2021 U.S. Open champion who now will face Carlos Alcaraz in the semifinals at the All England Club for the second consecutive year.

"Was a bit up-and-down match, in a way, from both sides," Medvedev said.

Alcaraz, the defending champion and No. 3 seed, took a bit of time to get going in his quarterfinal, but once he did, there was no stopping him during a 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 victory over No. 12 Tommy Paul at No. 1 Court.

"We try just to find solutions," said Alcaraz, coming off a title at the French Open last month and seeking his fourth Grand Slam trophy. "For me, obviously, it's going to be really difficult to play my best tennis every match."

Over at Centre Court, it was not immediately clear what was wrong with Sinner, who leaned back in his sideline chair, rested his head in a hand and had his heart rate checked before heading to the locker room. During a later changeover, Sinner draped a towel over his head.

AP

Daniil Medvedev of Russia reacts after winning a point against Jannik Sinner of Italy during their quarterfinal match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Tuesday, July 9, 2024.

While he did regain his usual verve, particularly on his booming forehand, and pushed the match to a fifth set — the 36th this fortnight and the most at any Grand Slam tournament in the Open era, which dates to 1968 — Sinner could not get over the line.

Even though he won more points (164-160), accumulated more winners (61-56), made fewer unforced errors (49-45), hit more aces (17-15) and finished with far fewer double-faults (11-4).

"It's a tough one to swallow," Sinner said.

Medvedev, a 28-year-old from Russia, began playing closer to the baseline than he often does. He found the space to deliver more winners, compiling 13 in the closing set alone, broke for a 3-1 lead in the fifth, and was on his way back to the semifinals.

"Today," Medvedev said, "a lot of tactical things worked well."

After eliminating the 22-year-old Sinner, Medvedev now goes up against the 21-year-old Alcaraz, back-to-back tests against the two new young stars of men's tennis.

Against Paul, Alcaraz raised his level after a so-so opening set, putting together a 26-12 advantage in winners over the last three.

"When he starts building energy and building momentum ... it feels a little bit different than most of the other guys," Paul said. "He can play some seriously amazing, amazing tennis."

In the women's quarterfinals, Donna Vekic reached the final four at a major for the first time in her 43rd Slam, defeating qualifier Lulu Sun 5-7, 6-4, 6-1, and French Open runner-up Jasmine Paolini eliminated No. 19 Emma Navarro 6-2, 6-1 in less than an hour.

Navarro got past four-time major champion Naomi Osaka and reigning U.S. Open champ Coco Gauff earlier in the tournament.

"I know this isn't the last time I'm going to be in the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam," Navarro said. "I know I'll be back."

Vekic, a 28-year-old from Croatia, pondered quitting the sport on multiple occasions — including as recently as right before play began at Roland Garros in May.

"I didn't have any energy, any motivation to keep practicing, keep pushing, because I felt like the last couple months I've given everything for tennis, and I wasn't getting the results that I kind of expected," Vekic said.

"Now I'm the semifinals," Vekic said. "Not just in tennis, (but) in life, things can turn pretty fast."

Sinner was a Wimbledon semifinalist a year ago and carried a nine-match winning streak into Tuesday, including a grass-court title at Halle, Germany, last month. He moved up to No. 1 in the ATP rankings, replacing Novak Djokovic there, on June 10 after getting to the semifinals at the French Open.

His exit follows that of the No. 1 women's seed, Iga Swiatek, in the third round. It is the first time since 2018 that both the top woman and top man are gone from Wimbledon before the semifinals. That year, Roger Federer lost in the quarterfinals, and Simona Halep in the third round.

Against Sinner in Australia, Medvedev took the first two sets. But Sinner clawed all the way back to win his first Grand Slam title.

That result dropped Medvedev's career record in major finals to 1-5. Now he's one victory from a seventh such appearance.

"Hopefully I can win some more Grand Slams," Medvedev said. "I believe in myself. I believe in my tennis."

Klay Thompson believes he could be missing piece for Mavs after leaving Warriors

DALLAS (AP)—Klay Thompson remembers telling Luka Doncic he thought the Dallas superstar was on a path to greatness after Golden State beat the Mavericks in the Western Conference finals two years ago.

Now that Thompson has left the only NBA team he has known in 13 years to join Doncic and Kyrie Irving in Texas, he's ready to celebrate with, rather than console, the 25-year-old sensation.

"He was real gracious in defeat," Thompson said of Doncic on Tuesday during his introductory news conference with the Mavs. "I just appreciate someone who is not afraid of the moment and competes till the end. Luka fits that bill. I think we'll be able to bring the best out of each other."

The Warriors went on to win the last of their four championships with Thompson and Stephen Curry in 2022.

Two years later, an admittedly difficult season for Thompson ended with his scoreless, 0-for-10 showing in a loss to Sacramento in the play-in tournament.

He suspected that might be the end of his time with the team that drafted him 11th overall in 2011. And Thompson disappointed his dad, Los Angeles Lakers player-turned-broadcaster Mychal Thompson, by picking Doncic and Irving over LeBron James and Anthony Davis in free agency.

Watching the Mavs lose to Boston in five games in the NBA Finals had plenty to do with the decision.

"I was watching just as a basketball fan, and I did see, like, 'Man, I could really help this team. They're right there,'" Thompson said. "Not big adjustments, but just very little adjustments from getting over the top. We're knocking on the door, and that's what really got me excited to be here."

Thompson joined the Mavericks in a sign-and-trade deal involving six teams and a $50 million, three-year contract for the 34-year-old, a five-time All-Star.

Dallas also added free agent forward Naji Marshall on a $27 million, three-year deal and acquired Quentin Grimes from Detroit in a trade that sent Tim Hardaway Jr. and three second-round picks to the Pistons.

Marshall and Grimes were already on board when they got news of the Thompson deal.

"I told everybody, 'I'm about to get a ring,'" said Grimes, who was born and raised in the Houston area. "One of the best shooters of all time, for me as a shooter coming in, I'm going to learn from him every day. We've got a good group of guys, and when we got Klay, I'm like, 'The sky's the limit.'"

Thompson has had two full seasons since knee and Achilles heel injuries that sidelined him for 2 1/2 seasons. He is coming off his lowest scoring average in 11 years (17.9 points per game), and Thompson basically matched his career worst by shooting 38.7% from 3-point range.

Although Thompson came off the bench just 14 times in 77 games last season, he hadn't done that since his rookie year. This helps explain why Curry, among several fond farewells for his longtime "Splash Brother," said he hoped more than anything that Thompson could find joy in the game again.

"There was times last year it was tough, where it wasn't as joyful as it had it been in the past," Thompson said. "It's nice to kind of shed that and have a whole new fresh start, whole new group of guys to get to know. A whole new city. It's really cool. And I'm going to embrace the heck out of this opportunity."

Thompson said one of the first players to reach out was Irving, whose career has been rejuvenated in Dallas. They entered the league together in 2011—Irving was the No. 1 overall pick by Cleveland—and faced each other three consecutive years in the NBA Finals.

While the friendship with Irving helps, two trips at least to the West finals in three years is a big part of the reason Dallas landed a big name in free agency after years of disappointment.

"Everyone wants to be a part of a winner," said assistant general manager Michael Finley, a former Mavs star who has been in the front office for a decade. "In the past, Dallas has had some winning teams, but we just couldn't get over the hump of being a consistent winner. Winning is very easy to sell to athletes nowadays."

Thompson knows winning, and believes he has plenty left to take Doncic where retired Mavs superstar Dirk Nowitzki finally went in the 13th of his 21 Dallas seasons, an NBA record for a career spent entirely in one city. That would be the top of the NBA mountain.

"At this point in my career, still can't leave me open. I can guard, and I'm just excited," said Thompson, a 41.3% 3-point shooter who is sixth all-time in made 3s. "I know I can help this team, whether it's the knowledge I've gained, or big, big scoring nights. I just still know I can be a very, very good player in this league."

Now, Thompson is paired with one of the NBA's best young players.

Zhi competes in IMG Academy Jr. World Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior golfer Zhi Yun Li's journey to San Diego has been made possible thanks to the tremendous support from the local community and generous sponsors.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior golfer Zhi Yun Li competes in the IMG Academy Junior World Championships in San Diego, California yesterday.

The Northern Mariana Islands is proud to announce that junior golfer Zhi Yun Li is currently representing the islands in the prestigious IMG Academy Junior World Championships in San Diego, California from July 9 to 11. Alongside this significant event, Zhi will also compete in two other notable golf tournaments in the region.

Zhi's journey to San Diego has been made possible thanks to the tremendous support from the local community and generous sponsors. On June 22, 2024, a successful fundraising golf tournament was held, drawing in-kind and monetary donations from various supporters. This outpouring of support has ensured that Zhi can focus on his game and represent NMI with pride.

Zhi extends his deepest gratitude to the players, sponsors, and family members who made significant contributions to the fundraiser. Their support is invaluable in helping Zhi achieve his dreams and showcase his talent on an international stage. Special thanks go to the following sponsors for their generous donations:

- TurnKey Solutions LLC
- Marianas Pacific Distributors
- Fr. James Balajadia
- Franco Santos
- Lydia Tan
- Dom Kieffer
- Marco Peter

A special mention goes to LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, which has been instrumental in Zhi's preparation for these upcoming tournaments. LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort has graciously provided Zhi with free golf rounds, allowing him to refine his skills on their world-class courses. Additionally, they have supplied him with LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort uniforms, ensuring he looks and feels his best while competing.

"We are incredibly proud of Zhi Yun Li and his achievements," said Ronnie Yeom, general manager for LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort. "It's an honor to support such a talented young golfer, and we look forward to seeing him excel in San Diego and beyond."

Zhi's participation in the IMG Academy Junior World Championships and the other tournaments not only highlights his dedication and hard work but also serves as an inspiration to other young athletes in our community. For more information on Zhi's progress playing in the IMG Academy Junior World Championships in San Diego, California follow this link for his standing and scores (https://jwgc.bluegolf.com/bluegolf/jwgc24/event/jwgc241/contest/1/leaderboard.htm). ***(PR)***

FREE

From page 16

the process—but we're going to get there."

For 11-year-old Leilani Ruszala, who was the only girl participant in the camp, she said she joined because she wanted to be better at it. "I started playing baseball this year for fun and I really like it. It's a good sport," she said. Her position was first base in her Pirates team in the recent Natibu Sports Association Baseball League.

With the camp, she said, "I like that they're helping improve kids in baseball and that they're spending their summer and their free time on this." She then said she'll probably be back for the last two days of the camp.

As for Jo'ell Herman, 10-year-old from San Vicente Elementary School, he said he joined because he wanted to play better at batting and catching. He was the catcher for the Blue Jays team during the recent Natibu Sports Association Baseball League and also said that Palacios is his cousin, and that the camp is great so far.

LEIGH GASES

A group of young baseball players look on as Charles Molina leaps for a popup during the free summer baseball camp at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field last Saturday.

LEIGH GASES

Jo'ell Herman swings off the T-ball stand during during the free summer baseball camp at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field last Saturday.

Palacios, a 2025 Pacific Mini Games NMI National Baseball Team hopeful, then thanked the local media for bringing out the news to the community and to the organizers and individuals who helped and supported the camp.

The Saipan Baseball League donated 12 new baseballs, while Rep. John Paul P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) provided water. The rest of the equipment was provided by Palacios. Palacios also had help from fellow young baseball players Justin Camacho, J.R. Suel, J.T. Tyquingco, Angelo Igitol, and James Salalila.

For more information, contact Palacios at (670) 285-8084 or email palaciosbenjamin670@gmail.com.

JOE

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were all tied with a gross score of 85, with Jose Santos coming out in second place after a scorecard playoff. Third place went to Antonio Norita who beat out Calvin Yamagishi.

And in the C Flight, it was won by James Lin with a gross score of 81.

Just a shot behind in second place was Isaac Aguon with a gross score of 82, and third place went to Sixtus Aquino who fired a gross score of 84.

In all, 144 golfers participated in the tourney that's featured every five years.

Every milestone year, the Joeten DaiDai Foundation hosts the JMGC to help support various causes and non-profit organizations within the CNMI. This year, the JMGC was held on the 75th anniversary of Joeten and the late Jose Camacho Tenorio's 101st birthday.

LEIGH GASES

C Flight winner James Lin, center, poses with his trophy and Joeten Daidai Foundation's Shigeki Tenorio and tournament director Peter "Dung" Tenorio during the awards ceremony of the 2024 Joeten Memorial Classic at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort last Saturday.

LEIGH GASES

Senior Flight winner Anthony Benavente, center, poses with his trophy and Joeten Daidai Foundation's Shigeki Tenorio, left, and tournament director Peter "Dung" Tenorio during the awards ceremony of the 2024 Joeten Memorial Classic at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort last Saturday.

LEIGH GASES

Ladies Flight first place Hyun Son, center, poses with her trophy and Joeten Daidai Foundation's Shigeki Tenorio, left, and tournament director Peter "Dung" Tenorio during the awards ceremony of the 2024 Joeten Memorial Classic at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort last Saturday.

LEIGH GASES

B Flight winner Keith Kintol, center, poses with his trophy and Joeten Daidai Foundation's Shigeki Tenorio, left, and tournament director Peter "Dung" Tenorio during the awards ceremony of the 2024 Joeten Memorial Classic at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort last Saturday.

DOVE

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At press time, not all matches are finished.

In doubles matches, the NMI duo of Andreau Galvez and Trizian Canoza fell to Japan's Kota Ogawa and Misaki Kurashima, 3-21, 3-21; Kai Cheng teamed up with Yu Wei Peng and beat NMI's Antonio Nicomedez and Marilou Malasarte, 21-7, 21-6; and Nathan Guerrero and Janelle Pangilinan succumbed to Chao Pang Liao and Yu-Hao Lin, 5-21, 9-21.

In other singles matches, No. 3 seed Kuan Lin Kuo made light work of Guam's Chen Yang Hu, 21-2, 21-7; No. 5 Justin Hoh edged Keisuke Fujiwara, 21-19, 21-16; No. 6 Shogo Ogawa discarded of Yu Cheng Chen, 21-16, 21-14; and No. 7 Yu Huang defeated Rylan Tan, 21-18, 21-12.

Edward Lau was no match to Ping-Hsien Huang, 13-21, 8-21; Aryamann Tandon then routed Pyeong Gang Choi, 21-15, 21-13; NMI's Sean Dizon fell to Byung Jae Kim, 6-21, 7-21; Wongsup Wongsup-in beat Lee Tao Ong, 21-13, 21-14; and NMI's Paulo Quidato lost to Yen-Chen Ting, 3-21, 4-21.

Day 3 of the tournament starts today.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	57	34	.626	–
New York	55	38	.591	3
Boston	50	40	.556	6½
Tampa Bay	45	46	.495	12
Toronto	41	50	.451	16
Central Division				
Cleveland	57	33	.633	–
Minnesota	52	39	.571	5½
Kansas City	49	43	.533	9
Detroit	43	49	.467	15
Chicago	26	67	.280	32½
West Division				
Seattle	50	43	.538	–
Houston	47	44	.516	2
Texas	44	48	.478	5½
Los Angeles	37	54	.407	12
Oakland	34	59	.366	16

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	59	32	.648	–
Atlanta	51	39	.567	7½
New York	45	45	.500	13½
Washington	42	50	.457	17½
Miami	32	59	.352	27
Central Division				
Milwaukee	53	39	.576	–
St. Louis	48	42	.533	4
Pittsburgh	44	47	.484	8½
Cincinnati	44	48	.478	9
Chicago	43	49	.467	10
West Division				
Los Angeles	55	37	.598	–
San Diego	49	46	.516	7½
Arizona	45	47	.489	10
San Francisco	45	47	.489	10
Colorado	32	60	.348	23

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cubs cruise past Orioles behind Happ, Busch homers

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Zhi competes in IMG Academy Jr. World Championships

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No. 1 seed advances in Dove Saipan Int'l

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Twenty-one-year-old Viren Nettasinghe of Sri Lanka started the last Badminton World Federation Grade 3 International Challenge tournament—the Dove Saipan International 2024—with a bang yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The men's No. 1 seed was fired up after failing to reach the finals of the first tournament—the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2024—last week.

He went up against Chinese Taipei's Chi Ting Cheng, who gave him a run for his money, but demolished him after just two sets, 23-21, 21-18.

Nettasinghe landed the first four points unanswered in the first set to go up, 4-0, as Cheng was left struggling to connect with his smashes. Nettasinghe tried to keep up his momentum but Cheng found his stride and got within two, 4-6. Cheng then kept the pace until he tied it up, 7-7, as Nettasinghe tried to recuperate.

LEIGH GASES

No. 1 seed Viren Nettasinghe of Sri Lanka in action during the last Badminton World Federation Grade 3 International Challenge tournament—the Dove Saipan International 2024—yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The young up-coming Olympian then smashed his way to another lead, 12-8. Cheng didn't give up, however, as he fought to tie it up once again, 12-12. Later, Nettasinghe could've ended the set early, but Cheng clawed his way back from a 13-19 deficit and forced the game into extra points. Finally, Nettasinghe put the set in his back pocket after securing the final two points, 23-21.

The second set was also a struggle for the tourney's top seed, but he managed to put the game away from errors on Cheng's part and his better placements.

At just 21, Nettasinghe has etched his name in the annals of Sri Lankan sports history as the youngest badminton player to represent the nation at the Olympics.

According to a press release, Nettasinghe will lead Sri Lanka at the Paris 2024 Olympics as the captain of the men's Olympic team and the flagbearer of the Sri Lankan contingent for the opening ceremony. This significant honor underscores the country's commitment to nurturing and highlighting young talent on the global stage, said the release.

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LEIGH GASES

Chinese Taipei's Chi Ting Chen reaches for a return during the Badminton World Federation Grade 3 International Challenge tournament—the Dove Saipan International 2024—yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Free summer baseball camp for kids at Tan Ko ballfield

LEIGH GASES

Lefty pitcher Benjamin "Benji" Palacios lobs a ball during batting practice of the free summer baseball camp at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field last Saturday.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

A free summer baseball camp for kids hosted by up-and-coming baseball player Benjamin "Benji" Palacios is under way at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

The 18-year-old spearheaded the camp for 9-11-year-olds that began last Friday. Even with the age range, some young players below nine showed up and joined the camp.

The first day was last Friday, with the second day last Saturday, and will continue next Friday, July 12 from 2:30pm to 5pm, and Saturday, July 13 from 3:30pm to 6pm.

The first day saw a few participants, with participants more than doubling the second day with about 30 kids.

Palacios, the grandson of whom the baseball field was named after, said that he decided to start the camp because he wanted to give back to the youth. "When I was their age, I traveled for baseball and I want them to continue the same route and represent the NMI," he said.

The lefty pitcher who played for the NMI Junior National Baseball Team and is now a player for the Blue Jays, said that the camp consists of drills for fielding, hitting, mechanics, and a few batting practices sessions.

On the skill level he's seen so far, he said, "They still have a lot to work on at their age, but over the years, they're going to improve for sure." As for their interest in baseball, the Marianas High School graduate said, "You can see some of these guys, they're hardworking, and some of them, they're still in

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Joe Sablan Jr. tops Super Senior flight; Hyun Son rules Ladies

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The veteran Super Senior Flight was topped by Joe Sablan Jr., while the Ladies Flight was won by Hyun Son in the 2024 Joeten Memorial Classic at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort east course last Saturday.

Sablan had the lowest gross score of 76. In the front nine, he fired a birdie in holes No. 6 and No. 8 for a gross of 38, and in the back nine, he shot a birdie in the first hole No. 10 for another gross score of 38.

A close second place was Joe's cousin, Richard Sablan—who he went head-to-head with throughout the tourney. Richard settled behind Joe by just one shot with a gross score of 77, while third place was Edward Manibusan Sr. just a tick above with a gross score of 78.

LEIGH GASES

Super Senior Flight champion Joseph Sablan Jr., center, poses with his trophy and Joeten Daidai Foundation's Shigeki Tenorio, left, and tournament director Peter "Dung" Tenorio during the awards ceremony of the 2024 Joeten Memorial Classic at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort last Saturday.

Joe said that this is his first win in this flight and that he's "very happy because a lot of super seniors [are] great golfers too."

He then thanked the Joeten family "for putting up a great tournament and helping golfers in providing drinks and food to keep us energized on a very hot day. Thanks to all the participants for coming out and helping out a good cause."

In the Ladies Flight, Hyun Son ruled the division with the lowest gross score of 73. Second was Young Min Choi with her 79, and third went to Young Hee Yoo with a gross of 81.

In the Senior Flight, Anthony Benavente was tops with a gross score of 72. Second was Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho who finished with his gross total of 74; and after a scorecard playoff, Jim Arenovski took third place over Joe Tudela who both had a gross of 85.

For the other flights, Keith Kintol topped the B Flight with his gross score of 83. The second, third, and fourth place

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